THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

REGISTERED No. 44.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

VOLUME XXVII.
NUMBER 18.

CALCUTTA:—MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1880.

Per Annum in Advance.
TOWN.....11-8.
MOFUSSIL.....13-4.

THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 26TH APRIL.

THE REASONS assigned by different parties of the success of the Liberals in the late elections are amusing enough. The *Times* advances the opinion that "the verdict of the Constituencies implies no condemnation of the Conservative Government, and specially no dissatisfaction with Lord Beaconsfield's general foreign policy or its results, but only the notion that the Conservatives have been in power long enough, that "turn about is fair play," and that it is time the Liberals had an innings." Others say that "the fame of Mr. Gladstone personally has had a great deal to do with the new attitude of the electorate. He has talked himself out of the confidence and respect of the better classes, but he has talked himself into the fanatical devotion of the mob." Others again hold that the chief cause of the Liberal success has been the superior dexterity and zeal of the canvassing agencies among the Liberals. It is a general impression that, as a whole, the Conservative agencies have been over-confident and comparatively supine. A large number of people believe Lord Beaconsfield's now notorious manifesto to the Duke of Marlborough alienated the sympathies of the Irish and provoked their mortal enmity, which worked no little mischief. And lastly it is believed that the hard imperialistic tone of the late ministry produced reaction throughout the United Kingdom. We are disposed to think that the causes mentioned above operated together in bringing about the downfall of the Conservatives.

A MILITARY PAPER understands that instructions have been given to Sir Frederick Roberts to have a number of skeletons and skulls of Affghans killed in battle collected and forwarded to the India Office. They will, on arrival in London, be distributed among the various scientific museums in town. A number of Zulu skulls have already been received at the Colonial Office, where John Bull may inspect these prizes of war.

THE LAST HALF-YEARLY REPORT of the Muttra and Hattras Railway is very satisfactory. The net profits for the half-year under review were at the rate of $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. per annum, and the increase in passengers and goods carried shows that the line is appreciated by the native community. The charges for management and direction will be reduced on the opening of the Cawnpore-Farukhabad Railway, when the management of the two lines will be united under one Executive Engineer.

WE HAVE received the following letter from Dibrugurh:

We have had this day (30th March) a little durbar held by Sir Stuart Bayley, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, for the purpose of conferring the title of Rai Bahadur upon Babu Lal Mohun Das Hazarika, the late Inspector of Lakhimpur Police and the present Honorary Rajkhowa of Sudya. The grand hall of the Circuit Bungalow was the place selected and 12 o'clock noon was the time fixed for the occasion. The person to be invested with the title being late the time was however advanced to 12-50. The Chief Commissioner then came out of his room and took his chair and requested the gentlemen who were invited to attend the Durbar to take their seats. Sir Stuart looked quite dignified befitting the occasion and uttered a few words giving a brief statement of the long and meritorious services rendered by Babu Lalmohon to Her Imperial Majesty's Government. The sanad was then made over to the Deputy Commissioner, who stood and read aloud what it contained and delivered it to the worthy Hazarika. He took it with a salaam and returned to the seat allotted for him without uttering a single word in connection with the honor bestowed on him It is strange that the Hazarika had to be searched out a good deal to make him attend the Durbar and accept the honor conferred upon him. And Mr. Editor, why should it not be the case? Titles have become so cheap in the market that the purchasers who at first pay something in advance for them endeavour afterwards to get rid of the same if they can. It is to be regretted that not a single non-official gentleman was thought fit by the authorities to be invited to the durbar and it is to be noticed that the Native officials attended the durbar with native dress and had the good sense to dispense with brimless caps in conformity with the recent Government Resolution.

WE HAVE received the following letter from the Sylhet National Assembly:

Dated, Sylhet, the 22nd April 1880.

Sir,—I have the honor by order of the Committee of this Assembly, to convey their cordial thanks to you for your kind advocacy of the rights of the Sylhet landholders in your world-renowned paper. The manner in which you have supported the memorial which the landholders of this District have submitted to the Government of India against the Assam Local Rates Regulation, is highly gratifying to the Sylhet Public, and for this act of kindness the Committee feel themselves highly oblized to you.

I have the honor, to be Sir, your most obedient servant, Dulalchundra De, B. L. Assistant Secretary, National Assembly Sylhet.

We thank the Assembly for their kindness.

WE ARE indebted to the Press Commissioner for the following:

It was stated in the *Russian Turkestan Gazette* No. 26 dated 3rd, 15th July 1879 that the members of the "Samara Expedition," charged with the final exploration of the best route for the Central Asian Railway Line, were one by one arriving at Tashkend. It was stated as having been decided that the future Railway would follow a direct route from Turkestan (town) to Tashkend, avoiding Chimkend and the hills in its vicinity.

The *Russian Turkestan Gazette*, No. 49, dated 11th, 23rd December 1879, states that among the St. Petersburgh financial circles, connected with railway enterprise there is a talk about a scheme said to have been submitted to the Russian Government, regarding an immediate construction of the much discussed "Orenburg Tashkend Railway Line," with an extension of the same, via Samarkand, to the extreme limit of Russian territory in the direction of Kuldja. The entire length of this line, inclusive of the Frontier branch, is proposed to cover 2650 versts, or about 1755 English miles of gre[illegible]

The principal features of the scheme, as publishe[illegible] Novoe Vremia are as follows:

The contractors will establish a bank to be named "the Russian Railway Bank." The founders of this institution will undertake its establishment and working, as well as the construction of the "Orenburg-Tashkend Line," with its aforesaid extension. The concession for the line is to remain in force for 33 years and 6 months viz, 6 months for the organization of the undertaking, 4 years for the building of the line, and 29 years for the working of the same after which the line with all its rolling stock &c. becomes state property, the Government at the same time taking possession of the Bank and its capital, together with the balance of the capitalization expected to represent a sum of about 7 millions roubles.

The line will be constructed according to the rules and conditions relating to railway enterprize, as sanctioned by the Imperial Ministry of ways and communications, and also under its supervision and control. The future working of the line will be watched by a Government Inspector. The capital for the building of the line has been fixed at 174,050,060 paper roubles, and its extreme length as explained above, at 2650 versts. The cost of the building will be 65,679 paper roubles per verst (about two thirds of a mile.) The Bank will have the right of issuing its own notes, 10 and 100 rouble pieces to the amount of 190 million paper roubles, bearing interest at 4 per cent per annum on their nominal value. These notes will have to be redeemed within a period of 33 years. The Bank may invite public subscriptions both throughout the Russian Empire and abroad, in order to effect the issue of its notes, and the general management of the affairs of the Bank, will be in the hands of a Board of Directors, composed of its founders, who will elect a President from amongst themselves. On members retiring from the Board the Financial Minister will sanction the appointment of others in their room, taking care that their number will never fall below 6 The daily business of the Bank will be placed in the hands of a manager appointed by the Board of Directors, who have also the power of removing him from his post. The Manager with the Secretary to the Board of Directors, and by virtue of his office will invariably be the President of the Bank's immediate Council, to be composed of 3 Directors. One of these Directors will be nominated by the Financial Minister, while the remaining two are appointed, and may be removed, by the Board of Directors

TUESDAY, 27TH APRIL.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to the *Indian Herald* as follows:

Here we have got a park known as the Alfred Park, which contains, among other things, a race-course. To make the scene more pleasant and enjoyable, a regimental band plays there every Friday On the 8th instant (Friday) a couple of young natives of high family, while riding, thought to amuse themselves a little by going round the course. It is necessary here to mention that one of them was cantering, and the other was leading his horse at a "gentle gallop." While so riding they were met, near one of the gates of the park, by Mr. Markham, the District Magistrate, driving in a phæton. This officer, enraged perhaps at the repulsive sight of natives on the race-course, at once called aloud to stop. The young men, perhaps not hearing, or being unmindful of the shout, went on their way. They came to the place where the band was playing and one of them was immediately called to Mr. Markham by a Police Sergeant. The conversation, though it lasted only for a couple of minutes, was unworthy of a man who holds the executive charge of a district, and especially of Allahabad. It betrays the feelings which many of our rulers have towards the Indians, even of high family. After asking the young man his name, the Magistrate thus addressed him: "*Tubahot Zor seghora dourata tha*"—*i. e.*, you were riding furiously. *Achcha, kal tujh ko saza bheja jaiga*, which literally means, "very well, to-morrow a punishment will be sent to you.

Mr. Markham sent these young men to the Cantonment Magistrate for trial, who discharged them with a warning. What dire offence did these young men commit—furious driving or poking into the race-course? The matter ought to be laid before Government.

THE SAME CORRESPONDENT says:

A Town Hall has been erected in Benares by the late Maharaja of Vizianagram, and its keeper was dismissed from his service for allowing Babu Surendranath Banerji, of Calcutta, to deliver his speeches on the Civil Service Question. We have a building here known as the Mayo Memorial. When this was opened by Lord Lytton last year, not a single native was invited to join the ceremony, while Railway guards and drivers received cards at home. The natives who were desirous of going there were ordered to apply to the Magistrate for his permission. The park is the property of the Municipality, which, in other words, means that it belongs to those who pay the municipal taxes in some shape or other. But the property which legitimately should remain open for their use is jealously guarded. Young lads, Eurasians and Europeans are seen to ride furiously on the race-course, and yet how many of them are sent to the Cantonment Magistrate?

Comments on the above are superfluous.

DR. A. VANS DUNLOP, of Edinburgh, who died last month, has left 70,000*l.* to the University of that city.

FATHER CURCI, who is living in retirement at Naples, has written a preface to a new Italian translation of the New Testament, in which he deplores that the Scriptures are so little read by Italian Catholics.

ALL BACHELORS in Mississippi who are over twenty-five years of age will hereafter have to pay a tax of $3. We think it would have been more reasonable if a tax were laid upon persons, who married without a fair prospect of earning enough for the maintenance of wife and children.

THE UNITED STATES, with a population of over 40 millions, has 41,000 post offices; Great Britain, with a population of 32 millions, has 13,763; and India for its 200 millions, has only 4,107. But India is waking up, and will have its share in time.

SEVERAL RAILWAYS in America have adopted paper wheels for their locomotives and cars. They are light, tough, strong, and tend to reduce vibration and noise.

THE LUCKNOW WITNESS says that arrangements are in active progress for the erection of a large paper mill in Lucknow on the Gomtie, near the wooden bridge. The capacity of the mill will be, we are told, 140 tons of paper a month, or about the same as that at Bally.

WEDNESDAY, 28TH APRIL.

THE FOLLOWING startling facts are set forth in the reports of the United States' Consular Agents in Europe recently published by the American Department of State:

"First—that wages in the United States are double those of Belgium, Denmark, France, and England; three times those of Germany, Italy and Spain, and four times those of the Netherlands.

Second—That the prices of the necessaries of life are lower in the United States than in Europe and that the laborer in the United States, were he satisfied with the scanty and miserable fare upon which the European laborer must live, can purchase like food for less money than it can be purchased in Europe.

Third—That the French working people with far less wages are happier than the working people of Great Britain, who receive the highest wages in Europe, on account of the steadiness and economical habits of the former, and the strikes, drinking habits, and consequent recklessness of the latter.

Fourth—That more misery results from strikes, drinking, socialism, and communism in England and Germany than from all other causes combined, hard times included."

These facts account for the immense emigration going on from Europe to America.

THE GERMAN PAPERS publish the following figures concerning the newspapers and periodicals in existence: In Germany there are 3,788; Austria, 1,200; in England, 2,509; in France 2,000; in Italy 1,226; in Russia, 500. Altogether there are in Europe 13,600 newspapers and periodicals. In Asia there are 388; in Africa, 50; in America, 9,129; and in Australia, 100. The number for the whole world is 23,290.

A WAR between China and Russia is considered probable. The Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* says that in order to keep the Chinese from Kuldja the Russians are endeavouring to induce the King of Burmah to join the proposed Japano-Siamese alliance against China. Prince Yanachivaro, the new Japanese Envoy, who is to play an important part in these schemes, will leave Tokio for St. Petersburg in April. The Moskawa, which left for the Chinese shores a fortnight ago, will be immediately succeeded by the St. Petersburg and the Vladivostok. These vessels belong to the so-called volunteer fleet, and in the event of war will reinforce the Russian pirate squadron in the Pacific

SERIOUS DEFALCATIONS have been discovered in the St. Petersburg Overland Custom House to the extent of a million of roubles—£105,000. It appears that

the officials were detected clearing high-classed goods at a low rate of duty. In consequence of the discovery, the director of the Custom House and all the officials, excepting two, have been suspended pending an inquiry

RUMOURS REACHED St. Petersburg recently of large concentrations of Turcomans apparently in view of an attack on Mangishlak, Tchikislar, and Krasnovodsk. News has now been received from Tiflis reporting from Krasnovodsk and Mangishlak all quiet, and an earlier report from the Oxus, to the effect that the chief Oxus column had returned without meeting with any opposition to the right bank of the Oxus, and had been accompanied by the Khan of Khiva. It is reported that at Tchikislar and Chatte the Russian preparations are singularly backward. The entire force is 2,000, and General Mouravieff commands provisionally. The Turcomans refuse to pay the four years' taxes demanded by the Shah, and are blockading the Persian camp.

MR. BRIGHT on the Affghan war:

It was begun against the evidence and the opinion of the venerated Lord Lawrence, against the experience and opinion of Lord Northbrook, against the Council of the Governor-General of India, against the Indian Council in London, against the counsel of all the sensible and just men who heretofore have been thought the greatest authorities upon Indian questions, and it ended, as of course we all know it must end, when a powerful nation like this, with the wonderful ingenuity of armed instruments which it possesses, comes into conflict with a half-civilized people, in the slaughter of Afghans I dare say quite equal but perhaps exceeding that which had been inflicted upon the Zulus in South Africa. Now at this moment in that country what do you find! It is a country which is said to be as large as France and as mountainous as Switzerland. Throughout the whole of that country we have raised up the spirit of anarchy. There is no governor. The Ameer went away and died. His successor is a prisoner in our hands in India. There is no ruler in the country. You know something of the untold miseries—at least, you may judge from what you have read—of the untold miseries which war brings upon men and women and little children. But, there is one point that nobody, so far as I know, has ever touched upon, but which has always had a certain interest with me, and which has excited my sympathy I have seen in some of the narratives of the Afghan war that all the region round had been swept for camels as beasts of burden for the forces. What became of the camels? The least number I have heard it put at was 30,000, and has been reckoned as high as 40,000 or 50,000 camels, who have perished in these expeditions. One of our greatest poets, in a beautiful stanza has one line where he says "Mute the camel labours with the heaviest load;" and though the camel is not able with any voice of his to make protest or complaint, yet the burdened, overdriven, exhausted dying beast cannot but believe that even the cruelties inflicted upon him will be found written upon imperishable tablets by the recording angel.

There is the true ring of eloquence in the above.

THURSDAY, 29TH APRIL.

WE ARE GLAD to observe that the long pending quarrel between Hindi or Nagri and Persian in Behar has been settled by Sir Ashley Eden. The *Behar Herald* gives the Resolution, from which we make the following extract:

"This subject has been under discussion for the last seven years, but the orders issued by Government appear to have been practically ignored. The orders of the 2nd April 1874 and 9th July 1875, which reiterated previous orders for the use of Hindi and Nagri character in the courts and offices of Patna, Bhagulpore and Chota Nagpore Divisions, directed that all processes, notifications, and proclamations should be made in Hindi; that official records should be kept in Hindi; that petitions should be received at the option of the presenters in the Hindi or Urdu character; and that a knowledge of the Hindi character should be insisted on in the case of Police and ministerial officers. The Inspector-General of Police has lately brought to the notice of the Lieutenent-Governor that the *Behar Police Gazette* is practically useless to the officers of his department, because few police officers can read fluently the Nagri character, in which it is printed. The Commissioner of Patna has also reported that the orders for the introduction of Hindi have remained a dead letter, except in his own office, and in the Madhubani sub-division; that petitions are almost invariably written in Urdu; that vernacular orders to the police and police diaries and registers are almost invariably written in Urdu; that the registers in the Collectorate and Fouzdary are also generally written in Urdu; and the orders have been so far disregarded that in some courts Hindi printed forms of notices, &c. are filled up in Urdu instead of in Kaithi.

It is evident from the Commissioner's report that no real advance has been made in giving effect to the wishes of Government in this matter, and the Lieutenant-Governor has come to the conclusion that the change so long enjoyed by Government will never be thoroughly introduced until Nagri (or Kaithi) is made the character for *exclusive* use in official documents in Behar. He accordingly directs that this character shall be exclusively used from the 1st January 1881 throughout the Patna Division, and in such districts of the Bhagulpore Division as may hereafter be notified, and that the issue from the courts, or the reception by the courts, of any document in the Persian character, except as exhibits, shall be absolutely forbidden. Pending further enquiry, these orders will not for the present be enforced in the Chota Nagpore Division.

All's well that ends well.

ON THE 19TH INSTANT the water-works of Darjeeling were inaugurated by Sir Ashley Eden. We give the following extract from Sir Ashley's address:

It is a peculiar pleasure to me to have been asked to open these water-works to-day, because I flatter myself that with the exception of Mr. Trentler I am the oldest inhabitant of Darjeeling my memory goes back to the days when Darjeeling was a mere clearing in the forest, and when its great drawback was not want of water but too much water. I believe there are few places, in India which have progressed more in a short time than Darjeeling, and it is most satisfactory to reflect that its progress and prosperity are not due to any forced stimulation from Government, but have been the natural outcome of private enterprize. And the planters have, by the energetic clearing given us tea where before we had only water, it is the Municipality of Darjeeling, which embraces much administrative ability of a non-official character that has come forward and supplied the water so necessary to the preservation of the health of this settlement and the maintenance of its reputation as one of the best and most accessible sanataria in India.

IT IS announced that two American Commissioners have been appointed to negotiate a new treaty with China.

THE ENLISHMAN has the following:

It may gratify the British Indian Association to know that there is some reciprocity of feeling in England for the payment of the election expenses of Indian candidates, with their subscription for the payment of Mr. Fawcett's expenses. When speaking at Derby during the late elections, Mr. Plimsoll, the sailor's friend, said that "he would give £50 towards the election expenses of an Indian candidate, and it would be found that the people of England did sympathise with their fellow men in India."

We feel grateful for this good feeling, and hope it will take a practical shape some day.

THE FOLLOWING ELECTORAL passages-at-arms between Mr. Grant Duff and Mr. Maclean are amusing. Mr. Grant Duff called Mr. Maclean a dog set at him. "The dog acts," he said, "according to his nature, and perhaps deserves credit for his docility, but the person against whom my anger is directed is the person who sets it on." Mr. Maclean retorted by saying that dogs were employed in hunting and also in clearing away vermin. True, but with all such usefulness, the dogs are docile after all. This Mr. Maclean declined to admit and said if he was noted for anything, it was his non-docility. The result was that Mr. Maclean was nowhere.

FRIDAY, 30TH APRIL.

BABU RAM CHUNDER GHOSE of this city has published a very interesting work, entitled "A peep into the Vaidik age." He has shewn us the testimonials which he has received from several distinguished scholars. We have much pleasure in extracting the following:

It is *very* well done; no countryman of yours in this part of India could do anything like so well, and your command of the best authorities is remarkable. I trust that your attempts to bring to notice the results of recent research will have the success they deserve. A. C. Burnell, Esq, PH.D., C.I.E., *Tanjore.*

I have read it with great pleasure and feel sure that your work will be appreciated by all those who esteem scholarship and interest themselves for the antiquity of this country. I have recommended it to my pupils in the higher Sanscrit Classes, and I am sure it will be much appreciated by them also. Gustav Oppert, Esq., PH.D., *Professor of Sanskrit, Presidency College, Madras.*

THE BATTLE between Mr. Burgess and Dr. Rajendralala still wages loud and long. Our countryman is unsparing in his blows, but Mr. Burgess still does not cry *peccavi*, and all his misfortunes, it would seem, are owing to his loyalty to a third party Mr. Fergusson. After answering some points in detail Dr. Mitra thus concludes his last letter to the *Bombay Review*:

Had Father Loyola taken the matter in hand he could not have produced any thing more cogent. But nothing in human nature is perfect; and it is not remarkable that even this ratiocination is wanting in one ingredient,—a trifling one but there it is, the ingredient is—is—truth. Mr. Burgess knows well from the letter published by him in the '*Indian Antiquary*' (the same the answer to which from me he suppressed) that Mr. Furgusson repudiates the idea of dating the commencement of Stone Architecture from the time of Alexander (B. C. 328); he dates it from Asoka in 250 B. C. and I most positively and emphatically assert he did at one time attribute the origin of it to foreigners. In support of this assertion I have to quote only two brief extracts. In his "History of Architecture (I. 171) Mr. Furgusson says—"The Indians first learnt this Art from the Bactrian Greeks;" and he elaborates this in his "Architecture of Bejapore" (p. 87) by adding "we are not surprised to find wooden forms copied in stone in the early caves of the Buddhists about the Christian era, because we know that no stone architecture existed in India till the Greeks taught them the use of the Durable Material." If your readers will mark the contrast between "they did not copy the style of their works from Greeks or Bactrians" "they invented and perfected their own styles" on the one hand, and they "first learnt the art from the Bactrian Greeks," and "the Greeks taught them the use of the durable material" on the other, they will easily perceive whether the contradiction is due to my obtuseness or perverseness, or to a change of front effected under cover of a shower of scornful remarks. The fact is, manlines is wanting to acknowledge the mistake, and so my antagonist has resorted to an old clock to cover his retreat from an untenable position by a personal attack. Only the garment has been so often used that it has become sadly threadbare and somewhat out at the elbow.

We hate that consistency which means persistency in error.

THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, we are glad to learn, have been blessed with a spring harvest, which, if not a bumper one, is almost everywhere equal to the full average standard. Prices have shown no very great fall, and with good prices and an excellent crop the long-suffering ryot should this year have a little spare cash in his pocket.

WE ARE SORRY to learn that Mr. Bosanquet of the Bombay Civil Service, a victim of Sir Richard Temple's high-handedness, has resigned the service. The facts of his case are thus given in the *Indu-Prokash*:

Only very recently when the young Nawab of Junjira was to leave his State to go to Rajkot, a number of the Nawab's subjects assembled to bid farewell to His Highness and as he was going to be separated from them for some time to represent to the Nawab as well as the Asst. Political Agent, the grievances they were suffering from under the newly introduced forest rules. So far as can be seen from the evidence forthcoming, there was no show of force but Mr. Fitzgerald unfortunately took it into his head that the people had assembled there to prevent the Prince from leaving Junjeera. Some of the men were prosecuted before Mr. Bosanquet, who, while the trial was pending cut off all communications with Mr. Fitzgerald and ultimately discharged the accused as there was no evidence against them. Bosanquet was however soon after reduced and a Resolution of Government was issued, ordering a retrial of the case. And, we are informed, the accused have been retried and convicted. The worst of the matter is that the case cannot come for appeal before the High Court, for if it could the Government would not have discredited itself by so high handed a proceeding.

Would not an appeal to the Secretary of State right the wrong done to Mr. Bosanquet?

THE FOLLOWING statistics of last Parliament are interesting:

The Parliament which has just been dissolved contained 99 barristers, 14 solicitors, 6 recorders and 22 Scotch advocates; making 121 in all, or very nearly one-fifth of the entire body. Another great classes powerfully represented in the House of Commons is that of the army and navy, with the militia, yecomanry, and volounteers, who comprised in the late Parliament no fewer than 263. Besides these, 183 members were connected with the peerage by birth or by marriage; 102 represented official interests, as ministers and holders of places; and the great railway interest was represented by 170 members. Of these 32 were chairmen, 9 were deputy chairmen, and 129 were directors, many of them being connected with several companies. There were in the House 16 brewers, 4 who were both brewers, and bankers, and 1 distiller. The monied interests were represented by 7 Bank of England directors, 24 bankers, and 2 loan contractors and money agents. Of the other specific class representatives there were 51 authors, 12 newspaper proprietors, two editors, 6 civil engineers, 1 physician, 4 literary professors, and 4 surgeons. After deducting these various orders, there remained only 133 members who could properly be described as representatives of the commercial, manufacturing and trading interests of the country.

ANOTHER instance of the follies of the Public Works Department:

Perhaps the most costly and discreditable failure, after the Jubbulpore barracks, that the Indian Public Works Department has to answer for, is the bridge across the Teesta river. This structure cost Rs. 75,000 to January 1879, or Rs. 15,000 in excess of the estimate, and the work, we are informed, is as far from being completed as ever. In fact the piers erected at each side of the river have been condemned, and work has been started anew at a point a mile or so lower down. The work must cost a lakh and a quarter of rupees before it is finished, including the previous failure though we believe Messrs. Burn and Co, offered to take the contract originally for something between Rs. 80,000 and Rs. 90,000. This Government would not accept, as it was considered too high, and the result is that with a greatly increased expenditure the bridge cannot be finished for at past two years more.—*Statesman.*

SATURDAY, 1ST MAY.

WE ARE glad to learn from certain correspondence received from the Bengal Office that the Government of India on the recommendation of the Bengal Government has sanctioned an application from the Calcutta Turf Club for permission to erect a new Race Stand on the south of the Race-course and the Maidan on an engagement by the Stewards that the building shall be so constructed as to be capable of being taken to pieces and altogether removed within a week, whenever so ordered; also to use the strip of land between the road and Tolly's Nullah for the erection of temporary training stables of mats and thatch to be annually removed in February.

THE LIVERPOOL SOUTHPORT DAILY NEWS has an excellent article on Indian representation in Parliament. Our contemporary thus backs the proposal to bring forward Mr. Lalmohun Ghose for election to Parliament:

If Mr. Herbert Gladstone had been returned for Middlesex we should have respectfully urged upon the electors of Leeds the claims which India has upon this country, and the admirable opportunity which would be presented to them of doing conspicuous public service, in inviting Mr. Lalmohun Ghose to be their representative. He would have been worthy to address and represent Yourkshiremen who have selected Mr. Gladstone as their Member, for he is most ready in speech and gifted, as is many of his countrymen, with a clever mind and wide-reaching intellect. The peculiar circumstances, however, connected with the Gladstone and Leeds render this impracticable. The managers of the Liberal Party might arrange to find a seat for the able Bengali, but we are doubtful if they will. A Hindu Member of the British Parliament is, at present, too much of a novelty, even for Liberals, to be seriously considered by Party managers.

THE SAME JOURNAL makes the following remarks on the address of the Poona Surbhajanik Sobha to the electors of the United Kingdom:

The mail from India which came to hand yesterday brings us a document from yet another section of Indians, which should be read with interest. It is in the shape of an "appeal to the free electors of Great Britain and Ireland from their fellow-subjects, the unrepresented millions of

Digitized with financial assistance from the National Archives of India on 07 August, 2017

India," and emanates from one of the most useful public bodies we know, whether in England or in any other country, viz., the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha ("Association for the Public Good.") This is an association of liberal-minded and public-spirited men, whose headquarters are in the city of Poona Bombay Presidency. Desirous of making themselves understood by their English rulers the members of the Sabha spare no pains in placing before the authorities, by memorials and through the Press, the opinions of their fellow-countrymen and authentic reports upon the condition of the land. The service this Association rendered to the Bombay Government during the recent disastrous famine is beyond description, and is deserving of the highest praise and most grateful recognition. As we have said, they appeal to the electors to return men to Parliament who will take a real and deep interest in Indian affairs. Like Mr. Gladstone, they have an indictment to prefer against the Government for its action during the past few years. They do not deal in vague generalities, but specify the occasions wherein they have been aggrieved.

THE WESTERN DAILY MERCURY, Plymouth, makes the following remarks on the cost of the Affghan war:

We come now to another point of which we hardly can hope that Sir Massey Lopes will be ashamed, but of which we are satisfied the vast majority of our readers will. He said: "Well, that insurrection—that war you may call it—in Afghanistan has cost us in England nothing. I believe that bill has been entirely paid from the Indian exchequer." Good God! This English legislator boasts that we declared a war, with respect to which India had no voice, and we have he says, compelled the poor people of India to pay the cost! They are the poorest people under the sun. A handful of rice is their one meal a day, paid for with a few cowries—shells, so many of which go for a pice, a part of a farthing. And here is Sir Massey Lopes, rolling in wealth, boasting of the fact—and bidding Englishmen to take comfort in the fact—that poor India, and not wealthy England, is to pay the cost of a war which England declared, for English, not Indian purposes, and with which India had nothing to do. No, the wretched cowards did not dare to lay the cost of the war on England! They did dare—and a cowardlier thing never was done in this world—to lay it on poor dumb India—dumb in a sense in which no other country in the world is so; with a gagged press; and with all the wealth of the country drained out to be spent in Europe. If there were no Englishman with higher views of our responsibility to India than those of Sir Massey Lopes we would deserve to be burned up with fire and brimstone like the Cities of the Plain! But there are Englishmen of a different kind; and, believing that India's unswerving—unwavering—champion Mr. Fawcett will have a place, and a high place, in the next Government, we decline to take the word of Sir Massey Lopes for it that India will have to pay the cost of the Afghan war.

Amen!

THE TOTAL number of deaths in Calcutta during the week ending 24th April was 170, from cholera 19, small-pox 6, fever 53, bowel complaints 16, injury 2, and other causes 74.

WE ARE REQUESTED to mention that Babu Umbica Churn Soor, passing officer of the Agra Bank, who is serving there from the establishment of that Bank in Calcutta, and has gained considerable experience in banking and banking accounts, and Babu Shoshi Mohun Pal Chowdry, an influencial and rich zemindar, merchant and banker of East Bengal, have joined the direction of the new Banking Corporation. We hope the accession of these business men will impart confidence to the new project. Need we say that institutions of the kind are calculated to do much good by opening new fields of enterprise to our countrymen.

THE BAND OF HOPE, a Temperance Society, has started a Bengali periodical, named *Bisa-bairi*, for free circulation. We hope this paper will take a hold upon the rising generation of our countrymen.

BABU BHOLANATH PAL'S Indian Students' Guide to the use of English Idioms, Part II., is out. It brings up E to O. The words and phrases are carefully selected, the explanations given are fair and generally correct, and the illustrations appended are appropriate. We hope the author of this useful collection will bring his work to a speedy completion.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Antiquities of Orissa, Vol. II. By Dr. Rajendralala Mitra. 2. The Indian Students' Guide to the use of English Idioms, Part II. By Bholanath Pal, M. A. Head-Master, Hindu School. 3. The Civil Court Peon's Guide. By Bhoobunmohun Ghose, Sylhet. 4. Sishupal Bodh. By Navakumar Tarkapanchanan, Head Pundit, Gauhati School. 5. The Political Catechism for 1880-81, a retrospect, an outlook, and a warning, by Dr. Freeman, London. 6. *Akhon Asi*. By Raja Kristendra Rai, Bahadur. 7. The Aborigenes' Friend, April, 1880.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London April 26th.—Lord Selborne has been appointed Lord High Chancellor; the Earl of Granville, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Childers, Secretary of State for War; Lord Hartington, Secretary of State for India; Lord Northbrook, First Lord of the Admiralty; Mr. Forster, Chief Secretary for Ireland. Lord Salisbury has refused compensation to the American fishermen for the Fortune Bay outrage.

27th.—Sir W. Vernon Harcourt has been appointed Secretary of State in the Home Department; the Duke of Argyll, Lord President of the Privy Council. Difficulty has been experienced in forming the new Ministry, as the Radicals claimed to be represented. Lord Derby, Mr. Goschen, and Lord Rosebery declined seats in the Cabinet.

28th.—The Marquis of Ripon has been appointed Viceroy of India. Earl Kimberley, Secretary of State for the Colonies; the Duke of Argyll, Lord Privy Seal, not Lord President of the Privy Council as reported yesterday, that office having been bestowed upon Earl Spencer. Mr. John Bright is Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. Mr. Shaw Lefevre Secretary to the Admiralty. Sir Charles Dilke, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain enters the Cabinet probably as President of the Board of Trade. Earl Morley will probably be Under-Secretary of State for India.

28th.—Mr. W. P. Adam is appointed Chief Commissioner of Works.

29th.—The Right Hon'ble J. G. Dodson has been appointed President of the Local Government Board, with a seat in the Cabinet; Mr. Chamberlain, President of the Board of Trade; Mr. Mundella, Vice President of the Committee of Council on Education; Sir Henry James, Attorney General; Mr. Grant Duff, Under-Secretary for the Marquis of Lansdowne, Under Secretary for India; the Colonies Earl Morley, Under-Secretary for War; Mr. Fawcett, Post Master General. Lord Carlingford has been appointed Ambassador at Constantinople.

Constantinople April 25th.—The Albanians had occupied the ceded territory before the arrival of the Montenegrin troops. Hostilities have commenced.

St. Petersburg April 27th.—It is reported that another Winter Palace explosion has been arrested.

30th.—Parliament assembled yesterday when the new members were sworn in, and Mr. Brand was elected speaker.

30th.—Lord Carlingford has declined the appointment of Ambassador at Constantinople. Sir J. Herschell is appointed Solicitor General, and Mr. H. C. Bannerman Financial Secretary at the war Office. *Obituary.*—Lieutenant General Percy Hill. The Emperors of Germany and Austria have sent Generals to congratulate the Czar on the anniversary of his birthday, which is considered as a renewal of cordial relations between Russia and the other two Emperors.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

LECTURE by Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, on Tuesday, the 4th Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Expansion by Heat.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on Wednesday, the 5th Inst., at 4½ P. M.

Subject: Water.

LECTURE by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on Thursday, the 6th Inst., at 7½ P. M.

Subject: Singing and Sensitive Flames.

LECTURE by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy on Saturday, the 8th Inst., at 3 P. M.

Subject: Metals of the alkaline earths.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MAY 3, 1880.

THE NEW MINISTRY.

THE NEW MINISTRY has been formed. It is thus constituted:

The Right Hon'ble W. E. Gladstone, Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer.
Lord Selborne, Lord Chancellor.
Earl Granville, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.
Earl Spencer, Lord President of the Council.
Duke of Argyll, Lord Privy Seal.
Lord Northbrook, First Lord of the Admiralty.
Earl Kimberley, Secretary of State for the Colonies.
Marquis of Hartington, Secretary of State for India.
The Right Hon'ble H. C. E. Childers, Secretary of State for War.
Sir W. Vernon Harcourt, Secretary of State in the Home Department.
The Right Hon'ble W. E. Forster, Chief Secretary for Ireland.
The Right Hon'ble John Bright, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.
Mr. G. J. Shaw-Lefevre, Secretary to the Admiralty.
Sir C. W. Dilke, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs.
Mr. J. Chamberlain, President of the Board of Trade.
Mr. W. P. Adam, Commissioner of Works.
Earl Morley, Under-Secretary for War.
The Right Hon'ble J. G. Dodson, President of the Local Government Board.
Mr. A. G. Mundella, Vice-President of Council of Education.
Sir H. James, Attorney General.
Mr. M. E. Grant Duff, Under Secretary for the Colonies.
The Marquis of Lansdowne, Under-Secretary for India.
Mr. Fawcett, Post Master General.

The composition of the Ministry, it will be seen, consists of varied elements. Most of the leading men of the Liberal party are in it, including some, who are, we must confess, noted for ultra radicalism. Sir Charles Dilke is notably one of this stamp. He it was, who once took up a rather extreme position in respect of Royalty. But such are the vicissitudes of political fortune that he is now one of the trusted advisers of the Queen. Another Liberal of the Radical school has also joined the Ministry, we allude to Mr. J. Chamberlain. This gentleman came to the front by his persistent and most eloquent opposition to the late Ministry. Sir William Harcourt is another red radical. He had no seat in the last Liberal Cabinet, he was then Solicitor General, but he has now taken the office of Home Secretary. He is a man of rare ability and great decision of character, and he could not well be kept out of the Cabinet. We observe that several members of the last Liberal Cabinet have no seats in the present Cabinet. A star of the first magnitude has disappeared in the person of Mr. Robert Lowe. He no longer appears on the horizon of the cabinet. And why? The reason is obvious. Mr. Lowe is an intellectual prodigy but does not command a sweet temper. He was Chancellor of the Exchequer in Mr. Gladstone's last Cabinet, but he proved a thorn on the side of the Premier, who was obliged to remove him from the Treasury to the Home Office. It is also believed that he is not in perfect accord with the premier regarding the extension of the suffrage. Mr. Lowe, therefore, remains unattached. In the same way Lord Halifax has no office, but we believe he is now too old to accept office. Viscount Cardwell has also been left out in the cold. He too has become old, and may well be spared. Mr. Goschen is an economist of high repute, and has much influence in commercial circles. He would have brought strength to the Ministry. Mr. Gladstone paid him the high compliment of offering him the Viceroyalty of India, but he has declined it for domestic reasons. It might be that he has not joned the ministry for political reasons. There are a few others of the late Cabinet, who have not been included in the present, to wit, Mr. Fortescue, Mr. Monsell, Dr. Lyon Playfair and Mr. Stansfeld. On the other hand several new men have been introduced into the Cabinet, Earl Spencer, Sir William Harcourt, Lord Northbrook, Mr. Fawcett, Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Dodson, Mr. Mundella and Sir Charles Dilke. All these are good men and true. They will bring much strength to the Cabinet. A morning contemporary gives the following list of offices held by some members of the Cabinet in past administrations:

Mr. Gladstone.—1834, Junior Lord of Treasury; 1835, Under-Secretary for the Colonies; 1841, Vice-President, Board of Trade; 1843, President, Board of Trade; 1846, Secretary for the Colonies; 1852, Chancellor of the Exchequer; 1859, Chancellor of the Exchequer; 1866, Chancellor of the Exchequer; 1868, First Lord of the Treasury; 1880, First Lord of the Treasury and Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Lord Selborne.—1861, Solicitor-General; 1863, Attorney-General; 1872, Lord Chancelior.

Earl Spencer.—1868, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

Duke of Argyll.—1852, Lord Privy Seal; 1855, Lord Privy Seal; 1859, the same office; 1860, Post-Master-General, and again Lord Privy Seal; 1868, Secretary for India.

Lord Granville.—1840, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs; 1848, Vice-President of Board of Trade; 1851, Foreign Secretary; 1853, after holding Mastership of Buckhounds, Treasureship of the Navy, Chancellorship of Duchy of Lancaster, appointed President of the Council; 1856, Special Ambassador to Coronation of Alexander II.; 1865, Lord Warden, Cinque Ports; 1868, Colonial Secretary; 1870, Foreign Secretary.

Sir W. V. Harcourt.—1873, Solicitor-General.

Lord Hartington.—1863, a Lord of the Admiralty; 1863, Under-Secretary for War; 1866, Secretary for War; 1868, Post-Master-General; 1871, Chief Secretary for Ireland.

Mr. H. C. E. Childers.—1851, Member of the Government of Victoria; 1857, Agent-General for Victoria in England; 1861, Chairman of Select Committee on Transportation; 1864, a Lord of the Admiralty; 1865, Financial Secretary to the Treasury; 1868, First Lord of the Admiralty; 1872, again Agent-General for Victoria; 1872, Chancellor of Duchy of Lancaster.

Lord Northbrook.—1857, a Lord of the Admiralty; 1859, Under-Secretary for India; 1861, Under-Secretary for War; 1863, Under-Secretary for War; 1872, Viceroy of India.

Mr. W. E Forster.—1865, Under-Secretary for the Colonies; 1868, Vice-President of the Council on education.

Earl of Kimberley.—1852, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs; 1856, Ambassador to Russia; 1858, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs; 1863, Special Envoy on Holstein Question; 1864, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland; 1868, Lord Privy Seal; 1870, Secretary for the Colonies.

John Bright.—1863, President of the Board of Trade; 1873, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Sir Charles Dilke.—New to office.

Mr Joseph Chamberlain.—New to office.

Earl Morley.—An ex-Lord-in-Waiting. New to office.

As regards India we must confess we have been disappointed. We had all hoped that Lord Northbrook would be asked to fill the office of Secretary of State for India, but his Lordship has been transferred to the Admiralty. Of course his Lordship's official training has been such as to enable him to fill any high office with credit and satisfaction. But on national grounds we regret that India has been denied his services. It is said that because he was Viceroy of India,

it would have been derogatory for him to have accepted the office of Secretary of State for India. We confess we do not understand this reasoning. Certainly, the Viceroy of India is the highest personage representing the British Crown outside the United Kingdom. He is the ruler of many millions, and the visible representative of England's Majesty in the great continent of Asia. In this respect it may be said that he occupies a position analogous to the Czar of Russia. But he is subordinate to the India Office, and the Secretary of State for India is his immediate master. Why should it have been derogatory for our ex-Viceroy to have accepted the office of Secretary of State for India? There is also a precedent on this point. Lord Ellenborough was Governor General of India, and he became twice President of the Board of Control after quitting his high position. The President of the Board of Control in those days occupied the same position that the Secretary of State for India now-a-days does. In lieu of Lord Northbrook we have Lord Hartington as the Indian Minister. We have no reason to be dissatisfied with this arrangement, though we would have preferred Lord Northbrook as a tried friend of India. The Marquis of Hartington is a rising statesman; he was offered the premiership on the present occasion, which he refused on party and patriotic grounds. He is an able, clear-headed and painstaking man, and as India is sure to engage a large share of the attention of the ministry, a leading man of the Marquise's position has been put in charge of the Indian portfolio. We have been equally disappointed in the appointment of the Under-Secretary of State for India. It was generally believed that Mr. Fawcett would be invited to fill that office, but he has been appointed Post Master General. Possibly he has taken that office because he will have a seat in the Cabinet. But his exclusion from the India Office is a loss to India. He is the recognized champion of India, and he would have undoubtedly done much for this country, if he had taken his seat in the India Office. Of the Marquis of Lansdowne, who has been appointed Under-Secretary of State for India, we glean the following particulars:

Lansdowne, Marquess of. (Fitzmaurice.) Henry Charles Keith Fitzmaurice, 5th Marquess. Born Jan. 14th, 1845; succeeded his father in 1866; was educated at Eton, and at Balliol College, Oxford; was a Commissioner of the Exchequer of Great Britain, and of the Treasury of Ireland, 1868-72, when he was appointed Under Secretary of State for War; was sometimes Capt. in the Royal Wilts Yeomanry Cavalry; is a Magistrate for Wiltshire: married (1869) Lady Maud Evelyn Hamilton, youngest daughter of the 1st Duke of Abercorn, K. G., and has issue.

He is a young man of five and thirty, and if he can establish his reputation in the India Office, he may one day come out as the Viceroy of India.

The new ministry has thus the pick of the Liberal Party and many elements of strength in it. We only hope that the party itself will remember the good old saying—union is strength.

THE NEW VICEROY.

PUBLIC expectation in India was tip-toe as to the Liberal nominee to the Viceroyalty of India. Speculation was rife on the subject, and several names were suggested. It was first given out by the *Times* that Lord Northbrook might be induced to return to India even for a year, if for nothing else, at least for settling the Affghan imbroglio. But this was too good a news to be true, and the rumour has since died away. Then it was rumoured that Lord Dufferin was sure to come out, as he was by far the most competent man for the high office, but news has been received that His Lordship has declined the offer. It was next announced that Mr. Goschen was offered the appointment, but he too has declined it. Of course this announcement took the public by surprise. Mr. Goschen's name had not even been suggested by any body, but the offer of the appointment to him by Mr. Gladstone we are disposed to think indicated the weight, which the Premier attaches to the financial qualifications of the new Viceroy. The finances of India since Lord Northbrook's departure have been very sadly managed, and it has therefore been of the utmost importance that the head of the Government should be one, who would not be easily deluded by the syren voice of the Finance Minister. But the refusal of Mr. Goschen puts an end to all speculations under this head. The coming man is the Right Hon'ble George Frederic Samuel Robinson, K. G. Marquis of Ripon. He comes with a proud lineage and honorable antecedents. He is the son of the first Earl of Ripon, who as Viscount Goderich, was Prime Minister for a time in 1827. A morning contemporary gives the following brief account of his past career:

Starting as an *attache* in the diplomatic service, he, however, forsook that department for a Parliamentary life in 1852, in which year he was returned to the House of Commons for Hull. He subsequently changed his seat on two occasions in the interest of his party, before the death of his father in 1859, removed him to the Upper House, with the title of Earl of Ripon. The death of his uncle Earl de Grey in the same year gave him the further title of Earl de Grey, and it is as Earl de Grey and Ripon that the coming Viceroy is best known in English political life. In the same year also he was appointed to the Under-Secretaryship for War in the administration of Lord Palmerston, and in 1861 he first had official connection with the Indian Affairs, being in that year made Under-Secretary of State for India. The steady business qualities exibited in these duties procured for his Lordship, on the death of Sir G. C. Lewis in April 1863, the place of Secretary for War, which took with it a seat in the Cabinet. After three years of service in this capacity he once more reverted to the Indian Department on the withdrawal of Viscount Halifax from the Liberal Ministry, being appointed Secretary of State for India. The liberal party gave way shortly after this to Mr. Disraeli and the Conservatives. On the return of Mr. Gladstone to power in 1868 Earl de Grey and Ripon accepted the high and dignified, but otherwise not important office of Lord President of the Council. He also acted during this period as Chairman of that much abused commission which arranged the Treaty of Washington. For his services in connection with this matter his Lordship was created Marquis of Ripon. Resigning the post of Lord President of the Council in 1873, since then his Lordship has not taken any prominent part in the politics of the day. During this retirement, however, he took a step which created more stir than probably any action of his Lordship's during the whole of his political life. In the autumn of 1874 it was suddenly announced that his Lordship had become a convert to the Roman Catholic Church. This action brought down on his Lordship a singular storm from most of the newspapers of England, the *Times* particularly distinguishing itself by the remarkable line of argument it adopted.

Such in brief have been the antecedents of the new Viceroy. He is not a brilliant man, but is a good, steady, hard-working, and experienced man. He possesses varied experience, and his judgment may therefore be well relied upon. He is about fifty-three years of age, and has not therefore the flightiness of youth. He is not a stranger to Indian affairs, for he was twice at the Indian Office, first as Under-Secretary of State, and then as Secretary of State for India. Although he was not long enough at the India Office to distinguish himself by any particular measure, he was brought up in a good school of Indian politics. He was Under-Secretary of State when Sir Charles Wood, now Lord Halifax, was Secretary of State for India. That the Marquis of Ripon is distinguished by high conscientiousness is evident from the fact of his change of faith. A nobleman and a public man in his position would not have changed his ancestral religion, if he had not been moved by high conscientious scruples. And a conscientious man will not fail to do justice to the poor and dumb millions of India. He takes charge of the helm of Indian affairs at a critical time, and we earnestly hope he will prove equal to the occasion. India, happily, is not divided by political factions, and all parties will therefore give him a hearty welcome and fair play. May his reign be blessed with peace, prosperity, and happiness to the people of India!

THE AFFGHAN WAR.

IT IS not a little surprising that the immediate effect of Mr. Lepel Griffin's Durbar at Sherpur has been a fresh recourse to arms by the Affghans. It was hoped that Mr. Griffin's oration would be pacificatory, but it has proved inflammatory—it has inflamed the passions of the Affghans and led them to fresh fighting. The engagement with General Stewart about two marches south of Ghuzni was not a contemptible affair, and if the Affghans had a sufficient number of guns, we fear they would have given a different account of their valour. Of course General Stewart's success was complete, but we cannot agree with those writers who think that "it was by far the most decisive victory of the whole Affghan War," or take it to be, as another writer puts it, one, which "restores our waning prestige, and teaches the Affghans that we are quite irresistible in actual conflict." The Affghans shewed a courage, a fighting capacity, and a determination of character which even their worst enemies could not fail to admire. It would seem as if their women even were in their ranks. *Apropos* of the unprovoked assault upon Ghuzni, which it would appear, was not prepared for attack, the *Bombay Review* asks: "Why was not Ghuzni taken either in February or October of last year? Kandahar was occupied by our forces early in January of last year; so far as we remember, our hold was never slackened of the city and district, while the far advanced outpost of Khelat-i-Ghilzai was also always held; and in September, when the Kabul Catastrophe occurred, General Stewart had ample force for the march on Ghuzni and could have taken supplies for the purpose—would have been far better equipped than General Nott whose almost self-ordered march on this very line ensured the success of Pollock's great campaign. Again, in presence of this rejoicing over General Stewart's belated march we ask, why was not Ghuzni occupied fourteen months ago? We are aware that all sorts of answers may be given to this question, for we know it goes right through the flimsy apologies made on behalf of the bungling provincial cliques at Simla. But it is with regard to Sir Richard Temple that this query has the most special point; had he the courage of his convictions as much upward as he has downward, he could have forced the feeble hand of Lord Lytton and sent General Stewart to Ghuzni last March. It is needless to indicate what, now irreparable, losses might have been thus averted—even Louis Cavagnari might have been yet alive. Seeing that it was decreed we should, in military politics, revert to medival folly and barbarism and invade a friendly country to scare away an imaginary enemy beyond, we should at least have made war on the strategic lines of the country. That is only now done by completing our chain from Kandahar to Kabul." These questions are very pertinent, but we will not cry over spilt milk.

Fighting is going on. There was again an action at Charasia on the 25th ultimo. The *Pioneer's* Kabul correspondent gives the following account of it:

The Charasiab force has had a smart engagement to-day. In consequence of the belief that the Logaris were assembling, Colonel Jenkins got the Guides under arms an hour before daybreak. The camp was pitched east of Charasiah on a plain, and was distant 1,300 yards from the nearest hills. Daybreak showed the enemy, in number 2,000 to 3,000 occupying the hills to the east of the camp with many standards planted. Large bodies of men were also seen coming from the Zahibabad direction, and working round Charasiab under cover of the orchards. The camp was stuck, and all baggage packed ready for removal. The enemy opened fire about 7 o'clock; our troops, at first lying under cover, not replying. The Logaris showing in increased numbers, and several horses of the Guides and Artillery being hit, the baggage and guns were sent back beyond the nullah, near the hill captured by Major White on the 6th of October. A company of the 92nd under Napier and a half company of the Guides occupied the hill, the guns opening fire. After this position had been taken up no more horses were hit. Three companies of the 92nd held the road to the south; parties of Guides, occupying two ruined forts on our right flank, checking the enemy in the orchards above Charasiab, Colonel Jenkins heliographed the news of the attack, and Brigadier Macpherson was sent out with a wing of the 92nd, 45th Sikhs, three companies of 2nd Goorkhas, four guns of Swinley's Mountain Battery, two guns of the Screw Battery, and a squadron of the 3rd Punjab Cavalry. Brigadier Hugh Gough followed with four guns F-A, escorted by a wing of the 28th Punjab Infantry and a squadron of the 9th Lancers; two squadrons of the 17th Bengal Cavalry to act in support. Colonel Jenkins held his own easily until Macpherson's arrival at noon. A general advance was then made, the 2nd Goorkhas clearing the orchards of the Logaris, who instantly took to flight, making for the hills on the east and west of the Kushi Road. The Guides Cavalry pursued for four miles, killing 30 stragglers while the guns shelled the hills. The enemy's dispersion was apparently complete. Their loss is estimated at 100 killed and many wounded. Our casualties were 31, viz., 1 killed and 8 wounded of the 92nd Highlanders; 4 killed and 14 wounded of the Guides; 1 artilleryman and two of the 45th Sikhs wounded. The horse of Colonel Jenkins was shot. The whole of the troops returned quietly to the Bala Hissar Sherpur. During the day the forts about Cabul and the blockhouses of Sherpur were manned by the garrison, as rumours were floating about of hostile intentions of the Kohistanis. Sir Donald Stewart heliographed from Ghazni that 5 to 6,000 Andaris and Suleiman Kheyls, raised by the Moollah Mushki Alum, had gathered on the 22nd at Urza Alum, six miles south of Ghazni. General Pallisser's Brigade—four Infantry regiments, two cavalry, six Horse Artillery guns and six mountain guns—moved out under cover of darkness to attack. The enemy's position however, was deemed too strong, so strong, that Sir Donald Stewart followed with reinforcements. He arrived at 5 A. M., and the division attacked and scattered the enemy, who lost 400. Our casualties were very trifling. No officers were hit. Sir Donald Stewart was to march from Ghazni towards Cabul to-day.

The same correspondent thus telegraphed on the 27th:

Cabul, 27th April.—In yesterday's action the Guides lost 4 killed, 21 wounded, and had 32 horses put *horse de combat*. This was due to the fact that Colonel Jenkins had kept his sowars exposed to the Logaris' fire, to be ready to repel any rush upon his position, as he had not enough infantry to form a reserve. The Logaris had breech-loaders, and it is believed some Martinis among the number, as Martini bullets dropped among our men. Many sepoys of the Ameer's regiments were engaged, as well as 300 Safis from Tagao, who some days ago passed through Karez-i-Mir in the Maidan direction. The chief leaders were Hassan Khan, Tahir Khan, Papshah Khan, General Mahomed Karim, Mahomed Shah of Kalungar, and the Mullicks of Baruk-i Rogan and Charkab. Tahir Khan is reported to have been killed, but this is unconfirmed. One woman carrying a standard was shot when the 45th Sikhs charged the hill. Two wounded Ghazis are now in our hospital. Two guns F-A fired 96 rounds of shell during the seven hours they were in action. The Logaris admit a loss of 150 killed; the shells doing much damage among the fugitives. A cavalry patrol visited Charasiab to-day, and found all quiet. Another patrol in Koh-i-Daman to the north of Sherpur made a similar report regarding the Kohistanis. Sherpur has resumed its normal state of quietude to-day, but we are still on the alert.

There is no doubt that great and increasing excitement exists among the various sections of the tribes about Cabul, due perhaps to the movements of our troops at Ghazni, and the absence of General Ross's force from Cabul. The attack upon Colonel Jenkins proved to have been made by a combined body of Logaris, Kohistans, Safis, and Padshah Khan's Ghilzais, while shrewd suspicions are entertained that 400 men from Cabul also were present. The Kohistanis and Safis had passed towards Maidan to co-operate in any attack the Oomer Kheyls might have made upon General Ross; but finding the latter had been practically allowed to march southwards unopposed, they crossed the Cabul valley into Logar and were induced by Hassan Khan to join in the attack on Colonel Jenkins. Their severe punishment fully counterbalances any prestige they may have gained from being bold enough to assail a British force in the open.

To-day's reports from Chardeh show that the enemy's loss was far heavier than at first believed. The Chardeh villages alone are said to have 200 dead, while the total casualties are admitted to be 400 or 500. Our expenditure of small arm ammunition was 72,000 rounds; and during the time of the fight dead and wounded were seen being carried off on horses and mules. At Argandeh, when the news of the action arrived, every man turned out armed and took possession of Kotal-i-Takht; while messengers were sent to gather together the people of Maidan. When the result of the fight was known, the men dispersed, but have been restless since, and many have sent their families away, buried their treasure, and made preparation for renewed fighting.

Last night warning was given of the assemblage of a large body of men in the Khurd Cabul Hills, ready for decent upon Butkhak; and as the General's mail bag had been looted between Butkhak and Luttabund, extra precautions were taken. 200 of the 3rd Sikhs were sent off after nightfall to reinforce the garrison of Butkhak, and all the Mounted Infantry of General Baker's Brigade were held in readiness to start on short notice. There were 600 transport animals halted for the night at Bhatkhak, and as they were outside the walls of the fort, it was felt likely they might be stampeded. The night passed quietly, but the Sikhs still remain at Butkhak. To-day a patrol of the Guides was fired upon near Nama Khan Kotal on the Kohistan road, 8 miles north of Sherpur: some 800 men were scattered about the country on the other side of the koarl, but whether Kohistanis or Safis returning to Tagao, is not known. Mir Butcha continues sending in word of his approaching visit to Sherpur as a friend, but his intentions are really unknown. Sir D. Stewart is expected to join General Ross to-morrow. Color-Sergeant Smith, of the 92nd, died of his wounds to-day.

More fighting is going on. We take from the *Indian Daily News* the following telegrams dated the 28th ultimo:

Cabul, April 28th.—No news has been received from General Stewart and Ross since April 24th.

Anxiety is felt here, as reports are current that General Ross's column was heavily engaged on April 25th in the neighbourhood of Shekhabad.

From several native sources, we glean that a large force of Wardaks, Umer Khels, Saafis, and Logaris, under Gholam Hyder, attacked General Ross at Kila Surkh, close to Sydabad, but were beaten and dispersed, leaving on the field in dead alone twelve hundred men.

Nothing is known of our loss.

These rumours have yet to be confirmed, and may be much exaggerated.

All letters to and from General Ross have been intercepted. The attacks on Colonel Jenkins and General Ross, both taking place on the same day, point to an agreement between Mahommed Hassan Khan and Gholam Hyder.

Mahommed Hassan is said to be at a fort near Lungar, with only three hundred men.

The Logaris and Kohistanis are reported to have dispersed to their homes.

The road between this and Luttabund is very unsafe.

The natives carrying the mail bags were fired at to-day near Seah sung, and one was wounded. They returned, and set out again with an escort of cavalry.

All this shews that the bloody drama in Affghansthan is far from drawing to a close. The Affghans may be divided by our guns, gold and gifted oratory, but the warlike spirit is not yet dead among them. The hatred of the *Feringhi* seems to be still as strong as ever, and if our Government goes on as it has gone on, when will this disastrous Affghan campaign come to a close? The Ministry that provoked the war has paid the penalty by signing its death-warrant. The Viceroy that played such a ready tool in the hands of the Ministry is about to leave the country. But what they sowed their successors will reap. And these ought to take warning in time. Whilst out of office they had hotly opposed this war, but in office they are bound to see it carried to an honorable conclusion, but how are they to accomplish this object? We do not hesitate to say that if they stick to the programme of Mr. Lepel Griffin, they will not be able to see their way to the end. It is easy to say that Affghansthan will be made over to a friend and ally strong enough to hold the country, but will it be equally easy to find such a man? Yakub was by far the strongest man to keep the discordant elements of Affghansthan together, and when he has failed, there is not much hope of success with another man. Our Government must, therefore, give up the idea of finding a Dictator for Affghansthan. It should concontent itself with establishing a Confederacy or a Federal Union. This has been our idea all along, and the more we think on the subject the more are we convinced that if the chiefs of the different tribes were conciliated and chained to a Paramount Power, they would be strong among themselves in this union and in their attachment to the British Power. Perhaps the change of the Ministry may facilitate this arrangement. The Affghans are we believe alive to the exigencies of English party polities, and when they will know that the party which waged war with them is no longer in power, they may be moderate and reasonable in their councils and demands.

MR. FAWCETT ON INDIAN FINANCE.

IV.

AFTER examining the Indian budget of 1879-80 Mr. Fawcett refers to its discussion in Parliament. The debate which took place at an unusually early period of the session and continued for three nights, will be remembered as marking the commencement of a new epoch in Indian finance. As Mr. Fawcett remarks, the true character of the financial situation in India had never up till that time been officially recognised. He proceeds: "Liberal and Conservative Governments had not only persistently denied that there was any thing in the state of Indian finance to cause apprehension, but year after year, as the time for the introduction of the Indian budget recurred her actual financial condition was depicted in rosy hues, and her future was described in a spirit of increasing hopefulness. So little cause was there said to be for uneasiness or alarm that the Indian budget used always to be postponed till a period of the session when all other important business had been disposed of, when the budget was considered, it was little more than a repetition of an oft-told tale." But the admissions which Mr. Stanhope made on behalf of the Government on the occasion of the debate on the Indian budget of 1879-80 were remarkable. He fully recognised the true character of the financial situation in India, and announced that the balance between revenue and expenditure must be restored by "a large reduction of expenditure." Mr. Fawcett rightly calls this "The New Departure in Indian finance;" and he proceeds to consider the circumstances which induced the Government to adopt so entirely new and remarkable an attitude with regard to Indian finances. These circumstances are:—

1. The necessity of providing for famines out of ordinary revenue, and the character of the new taxation which had to be imposed for the establishment of a famine fund.
2. The increasing loss by exchange.
3. The necessity of providing for the cost of the Affghan War by borrowing.
4. The unremunerative character of a large portion of the expenditure on public works.

Mr. Fawcett considers each of these causes separately. The license tax imposed in 1878 was, he points out, virtually an income tax of fivepence in the pound upon all those who derived an income from trade or from skilled labour. While military officers, the well-paid civilians, and successful lawyers and doctors were entirely exempted from the tax, it touched every petty trader and every handicraftsman, whose earnings amounted, or were supposed to amount, to 4s. a week. The Government was brought face to face with the serious question that if, in order to raise the comparatively trifling sum of £750,000 it had to impose such taxation, what should it do if it should find it necessary to increase the revenue by a large amount? Again, the serious loss resulting from the fall in the value of silver brought home to Government the necessity of increased economy. During the last few years the home charges have increased to a most serious extent; and Mr. Fawcett rightly holds that it is of the first importance to adopt measures at once to reduce them as far as possible. Coming to the third cause, Mr. Fawcett lays down the sound principle that, in deciding upon any particular course of policy, its financial aspect should never be lost sight of. He says: "Those who are most competent to form an opinion seem unanimously to agree that any policy which would lead to annexation in Afghanstan would cause a large permanent addition to the annual expenditure of India. If such a policy should be adopted, both the present Secretary of State for India and the Viceroy would stand self-condemned; for after the admissions which within the last few months they have so unreservedly made as to the financial condition of India it is impossible for them to sanction new and heavy charges being thrown upon her, without the conclusion being ever present to their minds that the additional taxation which must be the inevitable accompaniment of increased expenditure will bring upon India the gravest perils."

In discussing the fourth cause, Mr. Fawcett gives certain important facts collected by the Select Committee on Indian Public Works appointed in 1878. This committee sat during the sessions of 1878 and 1879; and their report, which was published a few months ago completely demonstrates the unremunerative character of the bulk of the expenditure on public works in this country. The evidence placed before the committee which, the reader may remember, was presided over by Lord George Hamilton, the late Under-Secretary of State for India, has led them irresistibly to the conclusion that a large part of the outlay on works which are classed as "reproductive," does not yield even a fraction of the interest which has to be paid on the capital borrowed for their construction. It is conclusively shewn that in the case of many irrigation works, the return which is yielded, far from paying the interest on the capital outlay, does not even suffice to meet the working expenses. Some works of irrigation have certainly proved profitable as shewn in the following table given by Mr. Fawcett:

	Capital.	Receipts after meeting working expenses and interest at 4½ per cent.	Excess Revenue per cent.
	£	£	
Scinde Irrigation works	667,704	132,103	19·66
East Jumna	231,743	47,946	20·68
West Jumna	432,764	84,010	19·42
Cauvery	116,072	108,923	81·30
Godavery	736,444	94,351	12·94
Kristnah	463,590	42,630	9·8
Ganges	2,826,479	42,808	1·51

It will thus be seen "that, with the single exception of the works in Scinde, the schemes from which large profits are secured are either old native works, like the Eastern and Western Jumna Canals, and the Cauvery anicut, which have been restored by British agency, or works which have been constructed under exceptionally favorable conditions, such as the Godavery and Kristna." The capital laid out by the British Government in restoring the Eastern and Western Jumna Canals and the Cauvery anicut, does not represent anything like their cost—a fact which is generally ignored or overlooked in determining the financial results of irrigation works in India. The Godavery and Kristnah works designed and constructed by Sir Arthur Cotton undoubtedly proved successful, and Sir Arthur may well be proud of their success. But it must not be forgotten that those works have been constructed under what Mr. Fawcett rightly calls "exceptionally favourable conditions." Such conditions, it is needless to say, do not exist in every part of the country. To show that the success achieved by the Godavery and Kristnah works cannot be expected of other works, we may instance the works of the Madras Irrigation Company, which, too, were projected by Sir Arthur Cotton himself. The project was originally meant to comprise two divisions, one of which has been alone under constructed, viz., that

from Karnal to Cuddapah. The financial position of this work, which was visited by Mr. James Caird in the course of his tour through the famine-stricken districts of the Madras Presidency, is thus described by him: "An English Company was formed, with authority to raise a capital of £1,000,000, on a Government guarantee of five per cent. But the cost of construction, based on estimates for deltaic districts, was enormously increased by the difficulty of crossing a rugged country, and the estimated capital was found quite inadequate to complete the work. Further sums were raised and the guarantee extended, but an unexpected difficulty arose, in the refusal of the water by the cultivators of the black cotton soil, of which one-half at least of the irrigable land consists. The difficulties financially are thus doubled: first, by the vastly increased cost of the works beyond the original estimate; and second, by the want of demand for the water on so large a proportion of the irrigable area. Nor is the latter difficulty to be overcome, for in years of average rainfall the black fertile soils yield large crops without irrigation, their power of absorbing moisture from the atmosphere, and of retaining it, having been shewn by the experiments at Sydapet to be six or eight times that of an ordinary dry soil. In a financial view this canal is a complete failure." Almost the very same thing may be said of the Orissa Canals which, too, we believe, were projected by Sir Arthur Cotton, and which were purchased by Government from the bankrupt East India Irrigation and Canal Company in the expectation that, on the most moderate calculation, they would yield a return of at least 16 per cent. on their capital outlay. The success of irrigation works in Sinde need not be a matter for surprise, when it is remembered that the rainfall in that province is exceedingly scanty. The broad conclusion in regard to the financial results of irrigation works, to which the Public Works Committee have been irresistably led, is that though the aggregate irrigation expenditure of 15½ million pounds sterling yields a net profit of £131,924, the whole of this profit is obtained from old restored native works, and those which have been constructed in Sind and in the deltas as of the Madras rivers; and that with regard to works which have not proved remunerative and on which a capital of 10¼ millions has been expended, the return yielded in 1875-76, the latest for which official figures were placed before the Committee, fell short by nearly half-a-million sterling of the amount required to meet their working expences and the interest on their capital outlay. This, again, does not include the Madras Irrigation Company's works mentioned above, which have been purchased by Government and which cause a net annual loss of £46,453 to the Indian revenues. The financial results of railways have undoubtedly been more satisfactory than those of irrigation works; but the expectation that railways will prove *directly* remunerative has not yet been realized. The report of the Public Works Committee shows "that although there has recently been, on the average of years, an improvement in the returns of the guaranteed railways, yet in no single year except in 1877-78 has the return on the aggregate expenditure on railways been sufficient to meet the interest on the capital expended." The entire loss on the guaranteed railways amounted up to 1877-78 to no less a sum than £22,437,307. The comparatively favorable results which were obtained in that year are proved by the latest official reports to have been entirely exceptional, being favorably affected by the large quantities of grain which had to be taken to the famine districts in Southern India; between 1877-78 and 1878-79 there has been a serious falling off in the returns from the guaranteed railways. The gross receipts have fallen nearly 12 per cent; and as this falling-off has been accompanied by an increase in the working expenses, there has been a still greater diminution in the net receipts, amounting to no less than 18 per cent. The net receipts from the State railways have no doubt increased from £131,243 to £195, 787, but those lines do not as yet yield a return sufficient to pay one-third of the interest on their capital outlay. It should, moreover, be remembered that "as railways have now been constructed along the most important lines of communication, the returns which are yielded on the money expended on railways in the past, ought not to be regarded as affording any evidence that similar returns will be obtained from capital which may be expended in the future."

Having these stubborn facts before them the Committee recommended that the amount to be borrowed in future for public works should be limited to £2,500,000. It was further recommended that the money should be borrowed in India, so as to avoid an addition to India's indebtedness in England. Both these recommendations have been accepted by the Government. But the mere curtailment of the expenditure on public works will not suffice to place Indian finance on a sound and satisfactory basis. In order to restore equilibrium between income and expenditure, the policy of "rigid economy in every branch in the public service which the Government announced last year," should, Mr. Fawcett insists, be carried out with promptitude and thoroughness. How far has the Government redeemed its pledge that no effort shall be spared to secure every possible retrenchment in every branch of civil administration, we will see in another article.

DR. DUFF.

THE second volume of Dr. Smith's Life of Dr. Duff is much more valuable than the first. Dr. Duff as the reader is aware was not a mere missionary. Whilst he held the dissemination of the Gospel to be his first duty, he took an active part in the secular affairs of India, and did his best to further intellectual, social, and moral advancement of the people. In this light his memory is dearer to us than in the other, though we readily acknowledge the high and pure motives, from his point of view, which actuated him in his mission work. As a missionary Dr. Duff was too much carried away by his zeal—as one of his antagonists in theological controversies once remarked, "his temper was his worst enemy." His biographer in treating of his missionary career has we are sorry to observe caught not a little of his intolerant and bitter missionary spirit. Thus in noticing the movement of the Native community of Calcutta for the establishment of a national college, in contradistinction to Dr. Duff's College, which thanks to the single-minded zeal and princely liberality of the late Babu Mattylal Seal, eventuated in the foundation of the Seal's Free College, Dr. Smith writes: "In his first campaign of 1830-34, Dr. Duff had found himself fronted by the Orthodox Brahmanical families only. But now these were reinforced by the wealthy clans of Mulliks and Seals, by men of low but respectable castes who, under the previous half century of British rule, had risen from the buying and selling of empty beer bottles and other European refuse, to become landholders with a capital reckoned literally by crores of rupees or millions sterling. The poverty and greed of Brahminical priesthood, allied with the wealth of the socially ambitious *nouveaux riches* on whom it conferred a sanctified respectability, became apparently a far more formidable opposition than any which the Scotish Missions had yet been called to encounter. While the Brahmans cursed Dr. Duff, their low caste allies, the Seals and Mulliks, resolved to establish a rival College. They turned to the Jesuits, and to an Irish adventurer named Tuite, as the only so-called Christian who would consent to teach English and Western science on purely secular lines. Similarly one Gourmohun Addy established the Oriental Seminary as an adventure school." It is noteworthy that the institution founded by the "low-caste allies" of the Brahmins against Dr. Duff, or as is the fact by a single member of that body, is the only place where poor native boys can obtain education free of charge, while the missionaries have made their educational establishments, which had been originally started free, the means of their own maintenance. As for the Oriental Seminary founded by Babu Gourmohun Addy, of whom Dr. Smith speaks contemptuously in strange inconsistency with his own remarks years ago at the very institution, it is enough to say that it had long been the rival of the Government Hindu College, and is to this day venerated as the *alma mater* of some of the best educated, most accomplished and most distinguished natives of Bengal. But let that pass. We have said above that as a man and citizen Dr. Duff rendered eminent services to the cause of Indian amelioration, and we dwell on this part of his career with great pleasure. In 1844 we find Dr. Duff associated with Sir John Kaye in founding the *Calcutta Review*. He commenced as a contributor, and soon after took over charge as editor. In a letter to his biographer he says: "Mr. Kaye himself saw the fourth number in the press. Then it was that I took up the editorship, and I continued to hold it till obliged to return from India in 1849, when I gave up the management to my friend, the late Rev Dr. Mackay, who was a man of exquisite taste and many literary accomplishments. The grand object was to raise up the *whole* of India from its sunk and degraded position of ages, in every aspect of improvement, political, social, civil, intellectual, moral and religious. I felt, however, that the institution I had founded ought to derive some direct benefit from the *Review*. Accordingly I took five hundred rupees a year for scholarships and prizes." We need not allude to the grand success which the *Review* achieved under the management of Dr. Duff and his distinguished *collaborateurs*. About this time Dr Duff lent his powerful tongue to the advocacy of the establishment of a pauper hospital in this city worthy of its name and fame. The biographer writes: "A succession of sickly seasons, followed by an epidemic of fever during the latter rains of 1844, had filled Calcutta and its neighborhood with thousands of sick, diseased and destitute natives, Hindoo and Mahomedan. The city had grown to vast dimensions without those sanitary and municipal institutions which the self-governing communities of the West Provide for themselves. The Government, which had all India to care for as well as the dense rabbit-warren of Bengal proper, left the capital to itself, so that there was the blackest darkness under the lamp. So since the march of Lord Hastings at least up the Gangetic valley against the Pindaree hordes, cholera and fever have periodically laid low black and white, British soldier and Sepoy, Asiatic and European alike. Hygiene and quinine have now anticipated the latter, but the dread secret of the cholera fiend has yet to be wrested from nature in its most maleficent mood. Twenty years after 1844, when Lord Lawrence became Viceroy, he gave an impetus to sanitary science in India, which it has never lost. To him the salvation of the lives of hundreds of our soldiers and thousands of our native subjects, every year, is due. And Calcutta has been made as healthy as many a capital in Europe, by drainage and water works, by conservancy and lighting arrangements, by public dispensaries, hospitals and asylums, not surpassed in Christendom." This testimony to the present sanitary condition of Calcutta by one, who has not been much in favour of native influence in municipal administration, will doubtless be appreciated by the Native Commissioners of the Calcutta Corporation. We have seen what Calcutta was five and thirty years ago. If the reader wishes to have a still more vivid picture, let him turn to the burning words of Dr. Duff in his appeal to the Calcutta public for the establishment of the present Fever Hospital. We confess it has seldom fallen to our lot to read such a graphic, stirring and thrilling address as this. A few years after he headed a movement for subscriptions for the relief of his High-land countrymen suffering from famine, and the torrents of his eloquence flowed like the falls of Niagra. The biographer says: "Dr. Duff's Calcutta speech, in 1847, for their relief was a trumpet-blast, which produced such fruits that, up till a few years ago, money was sent from Bengal to the more destitute districts north of the Grampians.' We next come to the Charter discussions of 1853. Dr. Duff was then at home, and he took an active part in those discussions. He gave evidence both before the Lords and Commons Committees on all manner of Indian questions, particularly in connection with education. The biographer thus speaks of his evidence before the Parliamentary Committees: "We find him stating with a lawyer-like precision, born of the familiarity with a subject that much writing about it gives, the nature of the

two prevailing schools of Hindu law in Bengal; the necessity for simple codes, criminal and civil; the merits of the educated natives as judges atoning for their defects in an executive capacity; the claims of the Eurasians; the oppressions of the ryot tenantry by their zemindar landlords; the atrocities of the police and the laxity of the jail discipline; the unavoidable neglect of the sixty millions of Lower Bengal by the over-worked Governor-General, and the necessity for the detailed supervision of a Lieutenant-Governor. To Lord Ashburton's question, "Do you consider that the present generation of the Civil Servants of the Company are answerable for the existence of the abuses you have described?" he replied: "Certainly not, intentionally; but no doubt they may be answerable indirectly in another way, inasmuch as from their comparative ignorance of the language and of the laws, and perhaps from the general imperfections of the system, some of these abuses may have sprung up." Dr. Duff's influence was most marked on the new educational policy of the Government. The Biographer says: "Dr. Duff and Mr. Marshman worked out the educational portion of their statements before the Committee, in a form which Lord Northbrook, then the President's Private Secretary, embodied in a state paper. That was sent out to the Marquis of Dalhousie as the memorable Despatch of the 9th July, 1854, signed by ten Directors of the East India Company. Dr. Duff's handiwork can be traced not only in the definite orders, but in the very style of what has ever since been pronounced the great educational charter of the people of India." We now turn to the chapter on the Indian Mutiny. It is imperfect and incomplete. Dr. Duff had returned to India when the hurricane of the revolt was blowing. He who had watched the pulsation of Indian life for more than a quarter of a century was taken completely by surprise by this sudden and terrible outbreak. It was our privilege to hear his first sermon on the subject—we were then in the college—and oh! what an outturn of eloquence, righteous indignation, and generous sympathy with the mass of the Indian population it was! He condemned in words of rolling fire his countrymen for their irreligion, their inhumanity, their antagonism of feeling, their pride of race. The Biographer did not evidently hear this remarkable sermon and does not, therefore, take notice of it. We have read with great interest Dr. Duff's diary of the Sepoy Mutiny given in the biography. Dr. Duff was, however, not quite impervious to the Anglo-Indian influences of the hour, and it was this, which prevented him from doing full justice to Lord Canning. He thus wrote of Canning the Just: "His manly bearing and prompt energy, after tidings had reached of the awful massacres at Meerut and Delhi, gained him at the time general admiration. And if in the subsequent course and progress of the great rebellion, measures have been proposed and adopted, with at least his sanction,—measures which, to most of the non-government British residents here appeared in commensurate with the requirements of the terrible exigency, still, I could not join in the hue and cry raised against him,—could be no party to the memorial for his recall, because I felt that sufficient allowance had not been made for the unexpected novelty and extraordinary difficulties of his position—difficulties more than enough to try the nerves of a Clive or Warren Hastings." There is a latent feeling in these sentences that Lord Canning did not do all that he ought to have done, and that he did what he ought not to have done, but the verdict of history as the reader is aware has been different. The calm attitude and the wise discrimination shewn by Lord Canning at this crisis not only prevented a purely military revolt from developing into a national rebellion, but saved the escutcheon of British honor from indelible spots of atrocious cruelty and indiscriminate vengeance. The biographer has the following notice of the helping hand which Dr. Duff gave to the late Raja Dhukhinaranjun Mookerjea in connection with the Indian Mutiny:

> One of Dr. Duff's inquirers of 1830-1834 was Dukshina Runjun Mookerjea, a Koolin Brahman who edited the Bengalee newspaper *Gyandheshun*, or "Inquirer," which was of such service to the good cause. He had not joined the Christian Church, but had always distinguished himself by promoting reforms among his countrymen, notably that of female education, in which he was the Honourable Drinkwater Bethune's friend. When the time came to reward actively loyal natives, Dr. Duff submitted his claims to Lord Canning. The result of his services in the Mutiny was that the Bengalee Baboo found himself a Raja, and Talookdar of Oudh, having a confiscated estate conferred on him. When in Lucknow he did much to found the Canning College, on the educational basis of the familiar General Assembly's Institution. There he enjoyed the frequent counsels of Dr. Duff, as to his duties as the feudal lord of thousands of ignorant tenants. And there his earliest act was to create a model village bearing for ever the name of his honoured counsellor and benefactor, the Christian missionary, who thus acknowledged the beautifully oriental compliment: "A village reclaimed from the jungle of a rebel is a singularly hapy type of the building of living souls, whom I would fain reclaim from the jungle of ignorance and error. And if through your generous impulse the village of Duffpore is destined to become a reality, how would my heart swell with gratitude to God of heaven, were I privileged to see with my own eyes its instructed, happy and prosperous occupants."

During the last years of Dr. Duff's sojourn in India occurred the Indigo Revolt of Bengal, in investigating the causes of which he took a leading part. The biographer, who had fought on the side of the planters, does not shew sufficient sympathy with the labors of Dr. Duff in this field. His remarks on the *Nil Darpan* trial of the Revd. J. Long are, however, appreciative and just. He says:

> A personal case occurred to add new bitterness to the conflict which swept away the planters altogether. The Rev. James Long, a patriotic Irish agent of the Church Missionary Society, who worked for and sympathised with the people, made special researches into their vernacular literature, at the instance of Government. He caused a Bengalee play, termed *Neel Durpun*, or the Indigo Mirror, to be translated into English, and a valuable contribution to our knowledge on native opinion it was. But it libelled both planters and their wives, as a class. And the translation was officially circulated by the Bengal office, which thus became a partisan. Still not one of these offences, whether in the original, the translation, or the circulation, exceeded the extreme violence of the planters in the daily newspapers. In an evil moment the planters forfeited all the sympathy due to the sufferers by other men's misdeeds, by proceeding against Mr. Long for libel, not civilly, but by the un-usual andpersecuting course of criminal procedure, and that before the least judicial of the judges of the old Supreme Court. The missionary, whom at other times the planters rejoiced in, was sentenced, to the horror of the majority of them, to a fine of a hundred pounds—immediately paid by a Bengalee—and imprisonment for one month at the hottest season of the year. The jail authorities did their best to make him comfortable, and he held daily levees of the best men and women of Calcutta, including planters. Dr. Duff was doubtless one of the visitors; what he felt, for his friend and for the cause of righteousness, this letter shows:
>
> "SATURDAY.
>
> "My Dear Mrs. Long,—Accept my best thanks for the note from your beloved husband. It was very kind of him to remember me, and of you to send me the note so promptly. I am glad that he is out of Madras. His stay there could only have prolonged excitement; and what he needs above all things now *rest, rest, rest*, to mind and body. He should go up to the hills at once, and all day wander over the breezy heights, communing with dumb but grand nature, in her most glorious manifestations,—or rather, with the great God whose handiwork is so glorious.
>
> "This mail brings London papers. I am glad to see the *Daily News*, next in influence to *The Times* itself, take Mr. Long's part in the *Neel Durpun* case, and condemn the planters, jury and judge.—Yours very sincerely, Alexander Duff."

The sequel of this *Nil Darpan* drama was the petition of the Native Community for the recall of Sir Mordaunt Wells. The biographer does not notice it, but we can bear personal testimony to the part which Dr. Duff took in this movement. We have not space to touch upon the share which Dr. Duff had in extending female education, in working the University, and in resuscitating the Bethune Society. This volume of the biography teems with most interesting facts connected with the non-missionary labours of Dr. Duff, labours which had the most abiding influence upon the intellectual and moral regeneration of India, and for which his name will be long cherished in grateful recollection by generations of Indians yet unborn.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

WE ARE requested to mention that Raja Surjikant Acharji Chowdhry of Mooktagachia, Mymensing, has subscribed Rs. 100 to the Fawcett Election Fund started by the British Indian Association. The total amount now comes to Rs. 6,280.

A RATHER singular letter has reached us from Triplicane, Madras, signed by Veriraghoba Charier. He deplores want of patriotism in Madras, and takes the local native community to task severely for not seconding the Calcutta movement to raise subscriptions for the payment of the election expenses of Mr. Fawcett. He, however, sends 4 annas as his mite, which is thankfully received. If small subscriptions of this kind were general throughout the country, there could be no lack of funds for public movements.

IT IS rumoured that Lord Lytton will leave India in a fortnight. This is, however, not likely, for we do not believe that His Excellency will make over charge to a *pro tem* Governor-General. The Marquis of Ripon is not likely to arrive till the beginning of June at the earliest, and till his successor comes, we do not think that the present Viceroy will leave the country. It would lead to much practical inconvenience, if an interregnum should ensue between the departure of the present Viceroy and the advent of his successor.

WE HAVE RECEIVED from the Bengal Office a batch of official papers relative to a complaint made by a correspondent of the *Indian Daily News* against the civil medical officer of Serampore in connection with a Railway accident at that station. It was stated by the correspondent that a patient, who had suffered from this accident, had not been duly taken care of by the medical officer. The explanation submitted by the medical officer and supported by the Magistrate of the station is satisfactory on all points. The Lieutenant Governor remarks, that "the explanation furnished by Dr. Udoy Chand Dutt is quite satisfactory and fully exculpates him from the false and malicious charges brought against him by the anonymous correspondent of the *Indian Daily News*." We hear that the correspondent may be prosecuted for defamation.

WE ARE glad to learn that Mr. Lambert, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Calcutta, proposes to appoint Babu Kalinath Bose a Superintendent of Police in the room of Mr. Lynam, who takes leave for three months. Although this appointment is for a short time only, still it marks the appreciation of native talent, energy and character by the Deputy Commissioner. A better officer than Babu Kalinath Bose could not have been selected for the experiment. We hope that what is now temporary will eventually become permanent on the occurrence of a suitable opportunity.

THE GREAT WORK of Dr. Rajendralala Mitra on Orissa is completed. The second volume of this work is out. It is a magnificent volume. It reflects great credit upon its renowned author, upon the artists who have illustrated it, and upon the printer, who has carried out the typographical execution. We hope to review the book in an early issue.

WHILE India is strong in other departments of literature, it is sadly deficient in history. This deficiency our educated countrymen are now endeavouring to remove. A project has been brought to our notice, which eminently deserves support—it is a history of the ancient families of Bengal. The projector is Babu Ananda Chunder Ghose, who was until lately an influential officer in the court of the Newab Nazim of Bengal, and in that capacity had exceptional opportunities of studying Persian firmans and other State documents, which throw great light upon the history of the ancient families of Bengal. He has also collected authentic geneologies of the principal families of this country. The history he contemplates will elucidate many important points in the history of Bengal both written and unwritten. We wish the projector every success and venture to express a hope that he will receive the liberal support of our territorial aristocracy and others, who feel interested in an accurate exposition of the past history of their country.

IT IS stated that several inaccuracies have been discovered in Sir John Strachey's Budget in England, and that much dissatisfaction is expressed in consequence. We do not wonder at this, for Sir John Strachey is not a safe man in calculations. It will be interesting to see how he will pull with the Liberal Government. The Liberal leaders have been the most unsparing

critics of his figures and financing. Possibly he will have to follow the example of his chief and quit office.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH Annual General Meeting of the British Indian Association took place in the newly erected Hall of the Association on Friday last, at 4-30 P. M. The new hall is a splendid addition to the house of the Association; it measures 65 by 24 feet, and is well suited for public meetings. In the unavoidable absence of the Hon'ble the Maharaja Joteendra Mohun Tagore, C. S. I., the President, owing to weak health, Maharaja Narendra Krishna, Senior Vice-President, took the chair. The Secretary read the report, and after some remarks from Babu Peary Chand Mitra, Dr. Rajendralal Mitra, and the Chairman, the report was adopted and the accounts were passed. The following gentlemen were then elected office-bearers and committee of management for the current year:

President.—Maharajah Narendra Krishna, Bahadoor.

Vice-Presidents.—Baboo Joykissen Mookerjee, Baboo Durga Chunder Law, Nawab Asgar Ali, Dilawar Jung Bahadoor, C.S.I., Hon'ble Maharajah Luchmessur Singh, Bahadoor, of Durbhungah.

Members of the Committee.—Hon'ble Maharajah Jotendro Mohun Tagore, Bahadoor, C.S.I., Raja Suttyanund Ghosal, Bahadoor, Rajah Harendrakrishna Bahadoor, Dr. Rajendra Lala Mitra Rai Bahadoor, L.L. D., C.I.E., Rajah Rajendra Narain Deb, Bahadoor, Baboo Pearychand Mittra, Raja Promothonath, Roy Bahadoor, Kumar Debendro Mullick, Baboo Jodoolal Mullick, Baboo Gobinlal Seal, Baboo Chundernath Mookerjee, Baboo Greeshchunder Ghose, Kumar Kanty Chunder Singh, Hon'ble Pearymohun Mookerjee, Baboo Dinonath Mullick, Nawab Mir Mahomed Ali, Baboo Narendranath Sen, Hirjeebhoy Manackjee Rustomjee, Esq., Baboo Obhoychurn Goho, Baboo Shamchurn Law, Baboo Jogendro Chunder Ghose, Baboo Guru Das Banerjee, D. L., Baboo Kallynath Mittra, Baboo Bhuggobuitty Churn Mullick Baboo Sreenath Chunder, Baboo Surendronath Pal Chowdry Baboo Nundolal Mullick, and Hon'ble Kristodas Pal. Roy Bahadoor, C.I.E., Secretary.

A vote of thanks was passed to the retiring President and Vice-Presidents for their services during the past year. Several new members were then elected. Babu Joykissen Mookerjea next moved the adoption of a petition to Parliament praying for an enquiry into Indian affairs. A summary of the petition was given by the Secretary. Babu Peary Chand Mitra seconded the motion and Babu Kalinath Mitra made some remarks. It was ultimately agreed that the petition be adopted, subject to revision by the Committee, and that the different representative Associations in the several provinces be invited to co-operate either by adopting this petition or by a making a similar representation to Parliament. Babu Amarendranath Chatterjea next enquired what steps had been taken by the Committee to represent the grievances connected with the present system of translation and printing of paper-books in the High Court, and the necessary information being given, Dr. Rajendralala moved that in view of the proposed Small Cause Court Bill a representation be made to Government urging the necessity of offering facilities for the realization of rent from owners of tiled huts in Calcutta. This motion was seconded by Babu Kalinath Mitter and carried. Babu Judulal Mullick then drew attention to the application of the Public Works Cess and the Road Cess contrary to the original intentions of the legislature, and suggested that this subject should be included in the petition to Parliament. Babu Jogendra Chunder Ghose in seconding him pointed out how the new law, and the action already taken by Government, infringed the original intentions of the two Cesses, and quoted the Secretary of State's despatch in support. The meeting separated after the usual vote of thanks to the chair.

WE ARE glad to observe that the British Indian Association have resolved to petition Parliament for an enquiry into Indian affairs. At the time of the East India Company the renewal of their charters afforded an opportunity for a periodical enquiry into the condition of India, and in this way much good was effected by the Parliamentary Committees of 1813, 1833, and 1853. Since the transfer of the Government of India from the Company to the Crown no such comprehensive enquiry has been made, and it is time that such an enquiry should be made. Mr. Fawcett in his new work on Indian finance makes a similar suggestion, and we hope the new Parliament will agree to the enquiry prayed for. All India should unite in submitting this prayer. We are glad to note that the British Indian Association have resolved to invite the cooperation of the representative associations in other parts of the country. We hope, however, that no time will be lost in forwarding this petition. We are now in May, and Parliament will rise immediately after July. So if the petition is to be sent in, it must be sent in at once.

WE HAVE received several letters, remonstrating against the proposal, said to be entertained by Government to deprive the uncovenanted judicial service of the usual privilege leave under the leave rules on the score of the Durga Puja vacation. We give one letter below as representing the feeling in the service on this subject:

I find in a recent issue of the *Bengalee* that the Government have lately ruled that as the courts are closed for a month during the Durga Puja Holidays the Judicial Officers shall have henceforth no privilege leave. This is of course one of the fruits of the Afghan War leading to economy in directions not opposed by strong interests, for which the most hard-worked of services shall for ever thank Lord Lytton. The duties of these officers are the most precise, detailed, monotonous, and sedentary, and therefore the most trying. In consideration of all that they formerly used to earn half pension after 22 year's service with no? medical certificate and the Judges of the High Court earn their full pension after only 10 year's service, while all other services had to work 25 years for the purpose. Some years ago that privilege was taken away, but yet the holidays and privilege leave were left them to recoup their fagging energies. In 1873 restrictions were imposed by Note 1 Section 31 of the Civil Leave Code making privilege leave inadmissible to Uncovenated Judicial Officers enjoying regular vacations *except in case of urgent necessity*. Now, again this exception is taken away, and are the Government aware that by this absolute restriction they have placed the Judicial Officers in a far worse position than any other branch of the service?

Holidays and Durga Puja vacation are given not to the officers themselves but to the general public. The public cannot resort to courts on those days and therefore the courts are closed so far only as actual hearing of cases is concerned. The officers nevertheless write out judgements and do all the executive work in arrear on those days owing to the frightful increase of work of late years. The vacation takes place at a stated periods of the year, when it may or may not suit the convenience of an officer to avail himself of it and go home for any spicial purpose. It takes place at time which is singularly inauspacious for such purposes as investiture with the sacred thread, marriage &c.—occasions when it becomes absolutely necessary for a Hindu to be present at home. His parents may not necessarily die at that opportune time, when he may be present to perform the obsequies. In short, it does not depend upon his own option to be absent from duty, while officers of all other departments may choose their own time to avail themselves of the privilege leave. Suppose, again, that a judicial officer falls sick at some other period of the year. An officer of any other department in a like case would at first take privilege leave if it is due to him. But henceforth the judicial officers shall have to take sick leave on half pay without an alternative. Again, whether, they choose or not courts will be closed each year for a month. Now a months' time is not sufficient for officers located at Tipperah, Chittagong, Sylhet, Assam and such out-of-the way stations for coming to, going from and staying at home to some purpose. Such officers and others for particular purposes, often allow privilege leave to accumulate sometimes up to the authorzied period of 3 months. While all other departments will continue to enjoy this advantage why should poor Judicial Officers be deprived of it? Why should the Government continue to pay the substitutes for officers in those departments on privilege leave, and decline to do so in the case of a department that is not only self-supporting but leaves a large annual surplus? The Government does not suffer any loss on account of the vacation either in stamp revenue or the work to be done, for those who wish to have their cases tried within the year institute them before the Puja, and the vacation is never allowed by the High Court as an excuse for accumulation of work. In fact the Judges and their ministrial officers make up the work by not "dividing the Sunday from the week" or night from day before and after the vacation.

The rule hitherto in vogue from 1873 was the best, consistently with the spirit of economy and the present absolute restriction cannot justly be imposed without making it optional with the officers, at the same time either to close or keep open their courts during the Durga Puja except of course on those days when all offices and the Bank are closed. If any such option is given and it be ruled that those officers who close their courts for a month shall have no privilege leave again and shall be at liberty to leave their stations during the period unconditionally, much of the heart-burning caused thereby may be removed. The authorities should remember that these hardworked officers have not yet one and all outlived Hindu ceremonials and customs, and that in these days of dear living they cannot afford losing half their pay for no fault of their own. I wonder what the August Patron of the Judicial Officers, the Hon'ble High Court, is doing in the matter?

WE PUBLISH the following letter in this column to invite particular attention to it:

SIR,—Will you, in common justice, allow me a little space for once in your columns, to remark on some of the misstatements in an article on the Archæological Survey of Western India, in your issue of 29th ultimo, to which my attention has just been called? There is no difficulty in tracing the article to its true author: it is too characteristically malicious to admit of a mistake there.

But (1) the reviewer estimates the expenditure of the survey at double the sanctioned allowances; (2) that expenditure has always been considerably under the amount sanctioned, and in one or two years not more than half; (3) the reviewer takes no account, in his estimate of the work done, of a large volume of 238 inscriptions published by the survey two years ago. (4) He also conveniently overlooks the fact that the "fourth volume" mentioned by him is styled on the title-page "No. 9":—the previous *eight* publications of the same series he ignores. (5) He further forgets that before I came to India I had been trained as an Architect. (7) It is more to the advantage of the learned public to employ the ablest scholars in India to translate inscriptions, than to spend my own time over them, or even with a pundit's aid to produce no better versions than those, for exmple, in *Buddha-Gaya*. (8) He asserts that Pundit Bhagwanlal Indraji is appointed on my staff: this is not true. He has only occasionally given his assistance. (9) It is a malicious insinuation that Pundit Bhagwanlal's note on the Buddhist Mythology of Nepal is in any sense based on Mr. B. H. Hodgson's *Essays*, and I defy the reviewer to show any proof of it: the *pictures* may remind him of Mr Hodgson's,—which I don't believe the Pundit had seen when he put into my hands his own collection to select from. (10.) The above may be sufficient to show any one to what extent the reviewer himself attends to th common "amenities" of truth and honesty. I say no moree

Sd. J. BURGESS.

Bombay 21 *April* 1880.

As an editor of many years standing Mr. Burgess should have known the impropriety of individualising the impersonal "we" of the editorial sanctum in the way he has done. It produces ill-feeling, but subserves no useful purpose. The creation of a Mrs. Harris, it would seem, however, was necessary to give free scope to the writer to charge us with malice, dishonesty and want of truth, and to indulge in scurrilous abuse. The brief was thoroughly worldly which said, "no case; abuse the plaintiff's attorney." As a gentleman, our correspondent should have avoided it. However, we shall reply to his charges *seriatim*.

Nos 1 and 2, are ingenious, but not ingenuous. In estimating the annual cost of the Survey we said "the establishment entertained for Bombay includes a Reporter on Rs. 1,000 a month, Mr. Coulson and another European Deputy, and several native assistants, draftsmen, photographers, &c. who cost a considerable sum. Including travelling charges, pensions, printing, and contingent expenses, the total may be reckoned at Rs. 34,000." Mr. Burgess says that our "estimate is double the sanctioned allowances" (which we did not refer to), and the actual was under the allowances, and on two years "not more than half" of the sum last referred to. The half of 34.000 is 17,000, and the half thereof Rs. 8500. Now, Mr. Burgess' pay is, if we are not misinformed, Rs. 12,000 a year, or Rs. 3500 in excess of what he says was the total cost "in one or two years." This is irreconcilable. Mr. Burgess' travelling charges, travelling allowances, tentage, &c. must have amounted to at least Rs. 3,000, and that would make the difference amount to Rs. 6,500. Then he has, or had, two European assistants, who must have cost at least Rs. 10,000, with travelling allowances. These sums make a total of Rs. 25,000. We have no definite information about the number, pay and allowances of his native assistants, clerks &c., nor of the cost of printing handsome quarto volumes with numerous illustrations, nor of the actuarial value of the pensions accruing. Surely these have not been excessively assessed at Rs. 9,000. The cost of printing some of the volumes was defrayed in England, and not included in the Bombay Budget allowance. But estimates are futile in a case like this. If Mr. Burgess will let us have a list of his establishment, before and after recent reductions, we shall gladly modify our remarks, if necessary. From the facts above set forth we cannot now admit the accuracy of his statement.

No. 3. We had not seen nor heard of the volume of inscriptions. It is not available anywhere in Calcutta. Are the inscriptions the work of our correspondent? If so, he has to tell us so, and we will make the necessary *amende*.

No. 4. Our correspondent is mistaken in supposing that we find it convenient to ignore the 8 Nos. preceding his No. 9. We have not seen them all, but those we have seen are not his. No. 8 is made up of Collectorate reports; No. 6 is by Mr. W. F. Sinclair; and the Khandesh report is by Mr. W. H. Propert. We cannot give our correspondent credit for these, and we know not how the case stands with the others.

No 5. To forget implies previous knowledge. We can sincerely say that we knew nothing of the school training of Mr. Burgess. Had we known

that he had been trained in his youth as an architect, it would have made no difference in our remarks, for we deny that training as an architect implies training as an antiquarian or an archæologist. The only similitude between the three is that all the three words begin with the letter A. Asked, "do you know German?" a man replied, "I do not know the German language, but my uncle knows to play on the German flute."

No. 6. Not given.

No. 7. We agree with our correspondent in thinking that "it is more to the advantage of the learned public to employ the ablest scholars to translate inscriptions." But why "in India" only? It is the same everywhere. The case, however, becomes different when a man is employed on a high salary to do a particular kind of work, and he gets a part of it done by amateur substitutes. The fling at Buddha Gaya is characteristic. It is there where the shoe pinches; but we have nothing to do with it. Its author can defend it in his own sledge hammer style.

No. 8. We cannot accept this evasive reply. The question is, was the Pandit employed, permanently, temporarily, privately or publicly to assist our correspondent or not? and the reply should be simple. In his letter Mr. Burgess first wrote "he has been temporarily employed for a short period," and then altered it to "have occasionally given his assistance." Did he ever recieve any pay? and have his literary contributions been always duly acknowledged?

No. 9. The charge of malice is deprived of its sting by the unguarded admission about the pictures. But the cat is sufficiently out of the bag for our purpose. The fact is, the Appendix is nothing more than a repetition—with some errors—of what Mr. Hodgson wrote long years back, and which has been published and republished—as one may see, if he needs a flapper to his memory, by referring to Trubner's Volume of 1874. We have heard that, adverting to it, a friend of Mr. Hodgson thus facetiously put it to him: "The Pundit must suppose you have entered into nirvana and will not detect the plagiarism." We have neither time nor space for quotations, and must, therefore, refer our correspondent to Mr. Hodgson, Alderley Grange, Wotton on edge, Gloucestershire, who is, we can assure him, too kind and good to deny, to an enquirer of our correspondent's position, full satisfaction.

No. 10. To quote our correspondent's language, "the above may be sufficient to show any one to what extent" Mr. Burgess has succeeded in putting us in the wrong box.

KABUL NEWS.

(From the Press Commissioner.)

Simla April 30th.—Kabul 29th April.—General Stewart, whose force was encamped at Killa Hindu outside Ghazni, left on Sunday with his entire force, and marched to Shashgao. Sirdar Alam Khan has been left in charge of Ghazni. In the first engagement the enemy were commanded by the sons of Mushki Alam and Mir Ahmed Khan. Mahomed Jan was not in the fight. Letters received from General Ross's Camp at Saidabad on the 26th April state that he had no serious fighting as on the 25th. A number of men showed themselves on the hills to the North-East of Saidabad. They held to their Saungars well but were dislodged by Colonel Rowcroft with loss of one Gurkha killed and two wounded. At the same time three companies with Major Combe went back to Shekhabad and worked back along the hills to where Colonel Rowcroft was engaged. Another body of the enemy was on some hills to the left of Colonel Rowcroft. Altogether there were about twelve hundred men opposed to us. They were all driven off with some considerable loss to themselves. General Hills and Major Kinloch proceeded on the 25th to join General Stewart at Shashgao. Our force at Charasia kept the Logaris in check none of whom had attacked General Ross. The Wali of Kandahar left it on the 22nd to restore trraquility on the line of communication with Peshin. All the Maliks of the Mirzui tribe in whose lands the posts of Dubrai and Gatai will be made their submission at once with the exception of one Malik, whose Fort was destroyed. The Malik is proceeding to the Arghestan district to investigate into the murder, and arrest the murderers of Major Wandby.

COMMERCIAL.

(FROM OUR COMMERCIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Saturday, 1st May, 1880.

There has been no improvement, in the aspect of our commercial affairs, throughout the past week.

IMPORTS.

This market owing to the absence of enquiry remained very quiet, and this being aggravated by the failures of some of the dealers in piece-goods, rendered transactions in all descriptions of cotton goods insignificant.

Yarns,—have had a fair enquiry both for import and country manufactured kinds and some transactions took place in the latter even at slightly advanced rates.

EXPORTS.

This market has not yet offered sufficient inducement to shippers to operate more freely. Want of sufficient supplies of country produce and high rates of tonnage continue to restrict transactions, the prices for wheat having declined led to a fair amount of business.

Oil-seeds,—continued scarce and transactions were confined to a narrow extent, prices still rule high.

Rice.—limited transactions but prices have been well sustained in consequence of slow and small supplies.

Jute,—continued inactive but owing to lightstock, dealers, have been emboldened from making any concession to buyers in prices and believing firmly of their rising again.

MONETARY.

Money,—continues easy and loans are obtainable on Government Securities from private parties and some of the local Bankers at 4 to 4½% per cent per annum, whilst the minimum at the Bank of Bengal continues six per cent.

GOVT. SECURTIES AND JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

There has been a fair business done in Securities when the prices were at their lowest ebb about the middle of the week; towards the latter end the market became firmer and prices have slightly recovered and ruled in the following manner:

26th April	4%	95-3 to 95 4	4½%	1o2-5 to 1o2-6
27th	,,	95-2 to 95-3	,,	1o2-4 to 1o2-5
28th	,,	95-1 to 95-2	,,	1o2-4 to 1o2-5
29th	,,	95-1 to 95-2	,,	1o2-4 to 1o2-5
30th	,,	95-2 to 95-3	,,	1o2-5
1st May	,,	95-2 to 95-3	,,	1o2-5 to 1o2-6

IN JOINT-STOCK SHARES.

There has been a fair enquiry for Jute and Cotton industry and Pressing shares.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS	Rs.	As.	P.
Secretary Nowada Reading Club	6	1o	o
Major R. C. Money, Durbhangah	5	o	o
Hon'ble Vishwanath Narayan Mundlick C. S. I., Bombay	3	14	o
Baboo Hurrodoyal Banerjee, Kurseong	2o	o	o
,, Ramtaruck Ghose, Chaygong	1o	o	o
,, Bassuram Surmah, Nowgong	1O	o	o
,, Dwarkanath Roy, Mooltan	3	o	o
,, Gopal Gobind Ghate, Kotri	13	4	o
,, Nundolal Bhattacharjee, Santipore	5	o	o
,, Kaliprosunno Mojoomdar, Bhaugulpore	13	4	o
ERRATA.			
For Baboo Mohendranath Bhattachajee, Bogra 18-4 Read	13	4	o
,, ,, Mohendranath Ghose, Read Baboo Mohendranath Bose, Berhampore	3	5	o
Read ,, Kartickya Bhottacharjee, Midnapore	1o	o	o

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*April* 28, 1880.

GENERAL.—Mr. F. H. McLaughlin, District and Sessions Judge, Noakholly, is appointed to act, until further orders, in the First Grade of District and Sessions Judges, with effect from the afternoon of the 10th instant *vice* Mr. W. Cornell.

Mr. W. Fiddian, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye is allowed special leave for six months, under Section 31 of the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Kali Nath De, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Brahmanberia, Tipperah, is transferred to Midnapore, and appointed to have charge of the Contai division of that district.

Baboo Rojoni Coomar Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Tipperah, is appointed to have charge of the Brahmanberia division of that district.

Baboo Gour Dass Bysack, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Backergunge, is transferred to Tipperah.

Baboo Brojo Mohun Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Furreedpore, is transferred to Hooghly, and appointed to have charge of the Jehanabad division of that district.

Baboo Haro Kali Mookerjee, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Jehanabad, Hooghly, is transferred to Balasore.

The privilege leave for three months granted to Baboo Tariny Prosad Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Balasore, under the orders of the 22nd December 1879, is commuted to furlough for one year, under Sections 8 and 16 Supplement F to the Civil Leave Code.

Baboo Judunath Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Noakholly, is transferred to Nuddea, and is appointed to have charge of the Chooadangah division of that district.

Baboo Chunder Coomar Dutt, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Mymensingh, is transferred to Noakholly.

Moulvi Faizuddin Hossein, temporary Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Rajshahye, is transferred to Mymensingh.

Moulvi Mahomed Serajul Huq, Officiating Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Monghyr, is transferred to Rajshahye.

Mr. F. F. Handley, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, is appointed to act until further orders, in the First Grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to Gya on being relieved of his present appointment as Officiating Magistrate and Collector of Fooree.

Mr. W. S. Wells, C.S., reported his departure from India on furlough on the 31st March last.

In supersession of the orders of the 2nd March last, Mr. W. C. Muller, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, is allowed leave from the afternoon of the 13th idem to the 3rd May next, both days inclusive, under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code.

Pundit Shyam Narain acted as a temporary Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade in Sarun from the 7th November 1879 to the 30th ultimo, *vice* Baboo Rajkissore Narain, who was employed in the License Tax Department.

Mr. T. J. Mendes, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector in charge of the Kurigram division of the Rungpore district, is allowed leave for three months under the rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code with effect from the 7th May 1880.

Baboo Probhat Nath Roy, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpigoree, is appointed to have charge of the Kurigram division of the Rungpore district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. T. J. mendes, or until further orders.

Baboo Troilukhyo Nath Sen, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Moonsheegunge, in Dacca, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 for the purpose of acquiring land required for public purposes in that subdivision.

Baboo Janoki Nath Dutt is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade for employment on land registration work in the district of Chittagong with effect from the 1st instant, *vice* Moulvi Fyzoollah Khan.

Mr. F. H. Barrow, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Shahabad, is allowed leave for two months under the Rules in Chapter VII of the Civil Leave Code, with the effect from the 3rd May next.

Mr. F. H. Harding, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector in charge of the Buxar division of the Shahabad district, is posted temporarily to the Sudder Station of that district, during the absence, on leave, of Mr. F. H. Barrow, or until further orders.

Mr. J. R. Hand, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector Shahabad, is appointed to have charge of the Buxar division of that district, during the absence, on deputation, of Mr. F. H. Harding, or until further orders.

Baboo Doorga Churn Ghose is appointed to be a Special Sub-Deputy Collector of the Second Grade in Chittagong and is placed in charge of the Island of Kutubdea.

Advertisements.

NOTICE.

The public are hereby informed that very valuable zemindaries, and putnies, situate in several parts of the District of 24-Pergunnahs, as well as holdings in Cossipore and other Suburbs of Calcutta and gardens and buildings at Pultah belonging to the Satkhira Zemindars, Narendranath Roy Chowdhry and others, will be sold on Monday, the 3rd of May 1880, at Alipore in the Court of the Additional Subordinate Judge of 24-Pergunnahs, pursuant to a decree for sale obtained, on the basis of a mortgage of those properties, by the late Raja Degumber Mitter C. S. I. The amount due under the decree is upwards of two laks of rupees, and the property will be peremptorily sold this time to which the debtors have given their consent. For further details, see advertisement in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 28th April 1880, and the *Nobo Bibhakor*, Bengalee newspaper, of the 26th April 1880, and apply to

UPENDRANATH MUKHOPADHYA,
Vakeel for the judgment-creditor.

Alipore, 28th April 1880.

DRAFTSMAN OR SUB-OVERSEER.

Wanted by the District Road Cess Committee, Tipperah, a temporary draftsman. His present duty will be to copy maps. Must be a neat and rapid worker; men who have passed the D. P. W. standard of Sub-Overseer 1st Grade preferred. Pay, Rs. 30 per month. Employment for one year certain. Apply with copies of testimonials on or before 15th May next.

F. JONES,
Chairman,
Distt. R. C. Committee, Tipperah.

THE STUDENT'S GUIDE TO ENGLISH IDIOMS.

Price Rs. 3, postage 4½ annas. To be had at the Canning Library or of the author.

OPINIONS.

This is the first part of what promises to be a useful work. It is the fruit of the study and experience of Babu Bholanath Pal, M. A., who, as Head-master of the Hindu School, has been very successful as a teacher, and his book is worthy of his reputation.—*Statesman.*

The design of the work (Part I) is excellent, and, so far, appears to have been ably carried out.—*Englishman.*

The 2nd part of this highly useful series is, like its predecessor, an unfailing mine of wealth to all searchers of literary treasure. The undertaking is a comprehensive one, and leaves little to desire for.—*Indian Mirror.*

TO MAHARAJAHS, RAJAHS &c.

OPEN TO ENGAGEMENT.

A young man with liberal education and having knowledge of English and Scotch farming, and practical experience of agriculture and estate management in general, and of tea-planting in particular in Central Assam, For reference and terms apply to the Editor, *Hindoo Patriot,* Calcutta.

WANTED.

An experienced and passed Overseer, who has practical knowledge in Road-making, &c., and has served in the D. P. W. Consolidated pay, Rs. 70 (seventy) per mensem. Applications will be accepted till 10th of May, 1880.

Apply to Babu U. C. Sen, Engineer and Contractor, Moorarie *via* Buctiarpore, E. I. R.

IRISH FAMINE RELIEF FUND.

				Rs.	As.	P.
Amount already advertised ...				87,486	5	0
Per District Judge, Bhagulpore.						
Hafiz Abdul Kurim ...	4	0	0			
Baboo Sardhari Lal ...	10	0	0			
,, Brojendronath Mookerjee	4	0	0			
,, Hurgouri Prashad ...	8	0	0			
,, Atoolchurn Mullick ...	10	0	0			
,, Shibchunder Banerjee ...	10	0	0			
,, Shoshibhushun Mookerjee	5	0	0			
	51	0	0			
Less Commission for M. O. and postage ..	1	0	0	50	0	0
Per H. Beveridge Esq. Bankipore.						
Syed Fazel Rohoman, of Dumri	50	0	0			
Rai Jai Mangul Persad ..	10	0	0			
Baboo Ram Kissen ...	10	0	0	70	0	0
Per Executive Engineer, Northern Roads Dn.						
Mr. H. F. White ...	50	0	0			
,, H. Grant ..	20	0	0			
,, J. Williams ...	10	0	0			
,, Y. Soobrao Naidoo ...	5	0	0			
,, G. A. Mac Cutchan ...	4	0	0			
Lalla Lutchman Purshad ...	5	0	0			
Munshi Rahmul Ali ..	5	0	0			
3 Subscriptions under 5 Rs. ...	6	0	0	105	0	0
Baboo Kalinath Dey Sub-Divisional Officer Bramanberia Tipperah				35	0	0
,, Bhoshun MohunRahaSub-Divisional Officer Chaudpur, Tipperah				88	0	0
Further Subscriptions at Furreedpore				11	0	0
Ditto at the Hailakandi						
Messrs R. White ...	16	0	0			
James Hodges ...	16	0	0			
H. Cawford ...	10	0	0			
Vincent Stephen ...	10	0	0			
I. H. Petrie ..	5	0	0			
S. Dible ...	10	0	0			
T. G. Stoker ...	16	0	0			
J. Jones ...	5	0	0			
F. Barter ...	5	0	0			
T. K. Lawson ...	5	0	0	98	0	0
Subscription made by the Revd. M. Jacques S. J. Assensole				52	0	0
Baboo Krishnachunder Gupta, Chittagong ...				20	0	0
Per Deputy Commissioner Shillong.						
Capt. Swete ...	10	0	0			
L. Hare Esq., C. S., ...	10	0	0			
Mr. James Petty ..	5	0	0			
,, Whitford ...	5	0	0			
,, S. E. Rita ...	5	0	0			
,, E. Harrison ...	5	0	0			
,, C. Swarby ...	5	0	0			
,, I. W. H. Sandell ...	5	0	0			
Baboo Jeebun Roy ...	2	0	0			
,, Jadunath Mookerjee ...	1	0	0			
	53	0	0			
Less Commission on M. O.	0	12	0	52	4	0
Coll. W. McCuttoch Shillong ...				25	0	0
P eHon. Secretary Committee at Comilla from a widow	10	0	0			
Collected in hospital ...	2	0	0			
R. Y's pocket money ...	5	0	0	17	0	0
Further Subscriptions by Babu Boshunmohun Raha Deputy Magistrate Chaudpur Tipperah				24	12	0
Per Honory Secretary Relief Committee Comillah, Tipperah.						
Baboo Jaduputi Banerjee ...	5	0	0			
,, Benodebehari Mitter ...	5	0	0			
,, Eshanchunder Roy ...	10	0	0			
,, Ramdoolall Roy ...	10	0	0			
Mahomedgazi Choudhri ...	25	0	0			
Baboo Jooguram Pal ..	10	0	0			
G. W. French Esq., ..	16	0	0			
L. Barber Esq., ...	5	0	0			
Othersubscriptions under 5 Rs. each ...	4	0	0	90	0	0
Per Magistrate of Bancoorah						
J. Anderson Esq., ...	50	0	0			
Dr. R. L. Dutt ...	10	0	0			
R. C. Dutt Esq., ...	10	0	0			
Subscriptions under 5 Rs. each	30	0	0	100	0	0
R. Porch Esq., Maldah ...	20	0	0			
J. Hennessy Esq., ,, ..	20	0	0			
W. Wilson Esq., ,, ...	10	0	0			
H. R. Raily Esq., ,, ...	10	0	0			
W. R. Davies Esq., ,, ..	10	0	0			
H. U. Eddis Esq., ,, ...	10	0	0	80	0	0
Surgeon Major A. F. Bradshaw				16	0	0
Major W. R. Barlow, R. A.				35	0	0
,, J. Sconce				50	0	0
,, H. S. Jarrett				100	0	0
Per Revd. A. H. Etty Collected in St. Peter's, Fort William				149	0	0
Per J. Munro Esq., Offg. Comms. of the Presidency.						
Babu Chundranath Mukerjee...	100	0	0			
,, Prankrishno Banerjee ..	50	0	0			
,, Brojendrachandra Banerjee and others ...	5	0	0			
,, Horishchundra Ghose ...	25	0	0			
,, Kunjabehary Das ..	2	0	0			
Munshi Habibal Hossein ...	10	0	0			
Baboo Radhamadhab Roy ...	2	0	0			
,, Kollashchunder Roy ...	15	0	0			
,, Gopikant Roy ..	10	0	0			
,, Sharodaprosad Roy Chowdhury ...	5	0	0			
,, Purnachunder Mullick..	1	0	0			
,, Harimohun Sing ..	10	0	0			
,, Nobinmohun GhoseHazra	15	0	0			
,, Sarodadas Mullick ...	25	0	0			
Munshi Zillur Rahaman ..	300	0	0	575	0	0
Messrs. F. W. Heilgers & Co.				250	0	0
Per Deputy Collecter of Atia, Mymensing.						
Subscriptions raised there				400	0	0
				Rs. 89,979	5	0

£3,500 remitted to the Duchess of Marlborough's Fund,
£3,500 remitted to the Lord Mayor of Dublin,

Calcutta, 30th April 1880. } H. W. I. WOOD, *Hony. Treasurer*

FOR SALE OR TO LET.

A garden of nine biggahs situated at Tirjula, with soil favorable to Tobacco crop. Apply to Babu D. N. Das No. 12, Sooris Tank Path Lane, Calcutta.

Dr S. L. Mullicks,—Curative Tincture or Specific for cholera and other spasmodic bowel complaints.
Price 1 ounce bottle ... Rs. 1-8 annas; ½ ounce pt. Rs. 1.
Packing charge 4 annas per bottle. To be had at Peoples Medical Hall.
No. 31 Rutton Sircar's Garden Street. Calcutta.

WANTED.

An overseer for the Julpigooree District Road Cess Department, salary Rs. 72 per mensem including allowance.

None need apply who have not passed the Road Overseer's Examination.

Preference will be given to one that has some experience in Road and Bridge making, levelling and surveying with the Theodolite &c.,

Applications with copies of testimonials (which will not be returned) will be received up to the 20th May 1880.

(Sd.) PREONATH BANERJEE.
Vice-Chairman D. R. C. Julpigooree

কর্ম্মখালি।

আসামের অন্তর্গত শিলং মোকামে মোহরারের আবশ্যক। বেতন মাসিক ৪০ টাকা, বাসা ভাড়া ও বাসা খরচ লাগিবেক না। যাঁহারা ইংরাজিতে চিঠী লিখিতে পারেন এবং ইংরাজিতে ও বাঙ্গালাতে হিসাব রাখিতে জানেন কেবল তাঁহারাই দরখাস্ত করিবেন।

শ্রীবীরনৃসিংহ দে।
নং ৩৯ ক্লাইভ ষ্ট্রীট—কলিকাতা।

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

President.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ROXBURGHE, K.T.

Vice-Presidents.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.
HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF ABERCORN, K.G.

Report by the Directors
PRESENTED TO THE
SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COMPANY,
Held at Edinburgh on Friday 4th April, 1879.

The Directors submitted the following Report on the business done by the Company during the year which closed on the 31st December, 1878.

Life Business.

During the year there were issued 1034 Policies, assuring £1,034,651, the new Premiums on which amount to £33,,022-17-3.

The Claims which occurred during the year, including 20 Endowments, were 262 in number, arising under 322 Policies, and the sums which became payable on account of these amounts, with Bonus additions, to the sum of £220,243-10, after deducting reassurances.

The Life Assurance Fund now amounts to £2,852,566-11-3, being £140,689-19-8 above what it was on 31st December, 1877. The whole of this fund is separately invested, and, by Act of Parliament, set aside to meet the claims under that Department of the Company's business.

Annuity Business.

In the Annuity Department 55 Bonds. were issued securing the sum of £2,969-0-6 yearly, and for which, the Company received the sum of £28,892-9-4.

INDIAN BRANCH.
CHIEF OFFICE FOR INDIA.
1, HASTING STREET, CALCUTTA.

Local Board of Directors :

R. A. Lyall, Esq. (Lyall, Rennie & Co.,) Merchant.
E. T. Roberts, Esq., Solicitor.
Robert Steel, Esq., Merchant.
General Agents for India : ROBERTS, MORGAN & CO., No. 1, Hastings Street, Calcutta.

N. B.—Persons assured with Profits in this Company are not liable as shareholders or members of the Company.

F. W. BAKER & Co.,

THE LARGEST AND BEST STOCK IN INDIA,

Silk Satins and Velvets of the very best quality,
Silk Stockings and Handkerchief,
Velvet Pile and Brussels Carpets, in very rich designs,
Brocaded Reps for Purdahs and Curtains,
Lace and Lens Curtains,
Cornices, Rugs, Table Cloths,
AND A
SPLENDID SELECTION OF MIRRORS.
SPECIAL RATES TO LARGE BUYERS.
ESTIMATES SUPPLIED FOR FURNISHING CONTRACTS

F. W. BAKER & CO.,
DRAPERS SILK MERCERS, &C.
TO H. E. THE VICEROY, LORD LYTTON.
FROM
Old Court House Street,
CALCUTTA.

GRIMAULT & CO.,

PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMISTS,
PARIS. 8, RUE VIVIENNE, **PARIS.**

MESSRS. GRIMAULT & CO. beg to inform the Public that they have made arrangements in order to secure a regular supply of their celebrated remedies, all prepared according to the formulas of the Official Codex. These medicines are prescribed by duly qualified medical practitioner in all parts of the civilized world.

GRIMAULT & Co.'s
Syrup of Hypophosphite of Lime.
The Diseases of the Chest, and the Consumption reputed in curable to this day will find an almost certain remedy in GRIMAULT & Co.'s Syrup of Hypophosphite of Lime; Asthma, Bronchitis, the different types of Cough, never resist to its salutary influence.
To distinguish GRIMAULT & Co's Syrup of Hypophospite of Lime from numerous imitations made, the Genuine one is always Coloured in Rose.

GRIMAULT & Co's
Matico Capsules and Injection.
Renowned Physicians prescribe GRIMAULT's Matico Injection as the most active and at the same time the most inoffensive remedy in the treatment of Acute and Chronic Diseases. The Matico Capsules, specially convenient to the persons who prefer an internal medication have not, like Copaiba, the inconvenience of giving Nausea.

DUSART'S
Syrup of Lacto Phosphate of Lime.
Tonic, Reconstituent and Digestive of prime ord r, particularly suitable to Feeble subjects, Convalescents, old people, and Rickety Children, who find in them the Calcareous Elements entering into the Constitution of the Bones, well adapted to Ladies in the Family Way and Wet Nurses (whose milk it enriches.

GRIMAULT & Co.'s
Indian Cigarettes.
Asthma, Nervous Coughs, Chronic, Laryngitis, Hoarseness, Loss of Voice, Facial Neuralgia, and Insomnia are rapidly relieved by using these Cigarettes.

GRIMAULT C.'s
Guarana.
A single powder of this vegetable production is sufficient to cure instantaneously the most violent Sick Headache. It is the most veluable remedy against Diarrhœa, Dysentery, and all disorders proceeding from derangement of Stomach or Bowels.

AGENTS :

SMITH, STANISTREET & Co.,	...	CALCUTTA.
BATHGATE & Co.,	..	Do.
BONNERJEE & Co.,	...	Do.
BARRIE & Co.,	...	MADRAS.
TREACHER & Co.,	...	BOMBAY.
RIGGS & Co.,	...	BANGALORE.

AMRITARASA.

PRICE REDUCED.

DESERVING as it is of the name of Amritarasa it has been winnowing fragrance of its name by its most uncommon power of efficacy. It is infallible in the cure of the most obstinate diseases; such as Pthisis, Consumption, Headache, diseases of the Heart, Asthma, Palpitation of the Heart, Acidity, Cholic pains of all kinds, Chronic Fever, Mercurial Affections, Spleen, Jaundice, Liver, Chronic Dysentery and various other disease. In all sorts of Female Affections it greatly contributes to the improvement of health. Mothers whose children were a prey to immediate death after delivery have seen them live and prosper after the application of this wonderful medicine. The medicine has a peculiar quality of being most uninjurious and can be applied to infants and ladies with delicate health without fear.

The cost of a phial is Rs. 4 and Postage about Re. 1-4. The parcels for abroad are well-packed and carefully forwarded.

INFALLIBLE CHOLERA PILLS.

The medicine is the best of its kind discovered and gives immediate relief. More than ninety per cent. patients are being cured. The cost of fifty pills, which can be administered in more than twenty cases is Rs. 3.

The following are the translation of and extracts from only a few of the testimonials from patients who were cured by the use of my abovenamed medicines. They will be published in full in the form of a Pamphlet soon.

HEM CHUNDRA BANERJI,
Missir Pokhra, Benares.

My freind Baboo Kristo Nath Singha was bitterly suffering for about four years from Piles, Asthma and Debility. No one, for a moment, could believe that his heatlh would be restored to him nor had they any hope of his life. As if inspired by the Almighty he began to use your Amritarasa and in a short time life was infused into him. The people here have taken it to be a miracle and the sufferers among them most importunately request you to take them under your treatment.

ESHUR CHUNDRA ROY,
Silk Factory, Chorebagan, Calcutta.

The patient who was suffering from the complication of Fever, Spleen, Asthma and other diseases has been thoroughly cured. His case was a hopeless one to Doctors and Boiddas who were consulted. The efficaciousness of your Amritarasa is wonderful.

RAM NARAIN SHAHA,
New Medical Hall, Bhaugulpore.

My youngest was under the treatment of many eminent physicians, owing to his suffering from Spleen, Dyspepsia, Diarrhœa and sores in mouth, for a protracted period of several years with no effect. At last he had recourse to your Amritarasa by the application of which he has regained his health, beauty and his usual liveliness.

RAKHAL DAS CHUCKERBUTTY,
Secy. Hit Sadhini Shobha.

Why should I refrain from enumerating the excellent qualities of your rare valuable and life-giving medicine "Amritarasa" A friend of mine who suffered for a long time from Head-ache and who tried every medicine English as well as Native has at last been relieved from his disease by using your Amritarasa.

RAJENDRA NATH DUTTA,
Secretary, Royna Club.

Amritarasa has been well-tried in the case of my mother who was suffering from colic pain. The result has been wholesome.

MOHIM CHUNDER BHUTTACHARJEE,
Gungarampore, Dinagepore.

Thanks to your "Amritarasa." I have seen the wonderful recoveries of Baboo Radha Nath Mokerjee and his wife from their respective maladies, fearful chronic dysentry and asthma of many years' standing.

SHAMA CHARN MITTRA,
Bansdiha.

A phial of your Amritarasa was used to check the attacks of Dysentery, Dyspepsia and Fever in a lying-in woman. She has perfectly recovered.

HURRI DOYAL CHOUDRY,
Worookshaha, Burdwan.

The wife of my friend was suffering from dysmenorhœia. In times the discharge of blood in her was frightful, and to such an extent that any one would swoon away before the sight. She was under treatment of every description. I am glad to inform you that she owes her recovery to your Amritarasa only.

RAKHAL DASS CHUKKERBUTTY.
Secy. Hit Sadhini Shabha, Nandan, Burdwan.

One of my relatives is almost entirely cured from the complication of such diseases, as chronic fever, spleen and diarrhœa of 7, 5 and 1 years standing respectively. With all these he was greatly reduced too. The efficaciousness of your Amritrasa is beyond description.

MADHUB CHANDRA BASU.
Mymari, Burdwan.

Amritarasa holds the most wonderful power of efficacy in the cure of hysteria, my wife had not had any attack of it since she used it.

SOORESH CHANDRA GHOSE.
Asstt. Surgeon, Roorki.

Eighteen times I procured your medicine which being administered in cases of Asthma, Gout, Chronic fever, Acidity and many other diseases proved quite successful except in the cases of two persons; my wife owes her recovery to this medicine.

DOORGA CHURN BANERJEA.
Bhowanipur, Calcutta.

I bought your medicine to the extent of a sum of Rs. 500. This is a wonderful medicine. In most obstinate diseases it has shown its wonderful power of curing as if by charm. Its efficacy has been fully observed in the cure of such diseases as colic pain, asthma, new and chronic consumption, chronic dysentery, hysteria and other female-affections.

KYLASH CHUNDRA ROY MAHASOY.
Zemindar and Honorary Magistrate
Dehoorda, Baleswar.

This wretch is not going to leave you even now but this time I have brought with me such happy news that I am sure I will not incur your displeasure.

Last year exactly in this time, I procured 2 phials of your Amritarasa which you might not remember. For the last 20 years I was suffering from Dyspepsia, Doctors and Kobirajes were consulted in vain. It was also made known to you that I was a great opieta. After the receipt of your wonderful medicine I used one of the two phials but not a particle of good had been done to me notwithstanding I was convinced that the medicine will not be of any use to me untill I can renounce the habit of using opium. But you know Sir, what a difficult task it is for a man like myself to leave opium. This year, however, for various reasons I have renounced my old habit of using opium and have used the remaining one phial with a wonderful wholesome result. I am now thoroughly convinced that I will have my relief by using this medicine. The disease being of many years standing I shall have to use it for a long time for which I send you Rs. 22 for four phials of your Amritarasa. Please comply. I request you not to give this medicine to any one accustomed to the use of opium because in doing so it will be brought to misuse.

SHURID CHUNDER BANERJEE
2nd Clerk, Tipperah Post Office.

Ten rupees worth Cholera Pills bought from you were all used with success. All the patients were cured.

ROMONI KANT ROY
Damrah, Manickgunge.

Ninety patients were cured by your Cholera Pills which I procured.

GOPAL CHUNDER ADHOORJA
Maliara, Doorgapore.

I have great pleasure to inform you that I tried your Cholera Pills in fifty cases, in all of which they proved successful except in the cases of 5 or 7 persons whose diseases were in their most advanced state.

C. W. RICHARDSON.
Chairman, Satara Municipality.

I am requested by the Maharajah of Burdwan to inform you that during the outbreak of Cholera here which happened to occur among the Maharaja's servants your pills were tried and proved to be the best remedy in the cur of this infectious disease.

T. B. MILLER.
Private Secretary.

I have great pleasure in saying that in the year 1876 I have cured 80 out of 86 persons suffering from Cholera with the pills of Baboo Hem Chundra Banerjee. The Civil Surgeon of Benares made an enquiry of me regarding these cures and has kept with him all the papers showing the result and written by my own hand.

GOPEE NATH SOOKOOL.
Benares.

COLLEGE AND SCHOOL

SILVER MEDALS FOR THE YOUTH OF BOTH SEXES

WE beg to draw the attention of the various Educational Departments of Government, and of all Donors of Prizes to Colleges and Schools, to our large and varied Stock of SILVER MEDALS, suitable for Presentation to Students and successful Prize-winners.

The Empress Medal. Rs. 30 cash.

Having been repeatedly asked for a Medal bearing the representation of Her Majesty the Queen, we have just produced

THE "EMPRESS OF INDIA" COLLEGE AND SCHOOL MEDAL.

A GOLD or SILVER MEDAL, of 1¾ inches in diameter.

Cash Prices { Gold Medal, in Case ... ... Rs. 200
Silver Medal, in Case, with or without Loop for Ribbon ... . Rs. 30

It bears on the OBVERSE the head and bust of Her Majesty, within the legend "Victoria Empress," and on the REVERSE a raised Laurel Wreath only; thus leaving space for inscription. *Vide* Illustration.

The Temple of Fame Medal 1¾-inch, Rs. 20 cash in case.
The Star Medal... .. .. Rs. 16 in case.
The Triumph of Industry Medal ..... Rs. 16 in case.
Plain Silver Medals, 1¾ inches diameter ... Rs. 10 in case.
,, .. 1½ ,, ... Rs. 14 ,,
Silver Medals, with Wreath on each side, 1¾ inches diameter ... . Rs. 19 ,,

NOTE.—The prices quoted are for the Medals and Cases only. Any engraving or inscription which may be ordered to be cut upon them will be subject to a further charge, varying according to the cost of production.

Gold Medals we make to order, at prices ranging from Rs. 50 to 200.

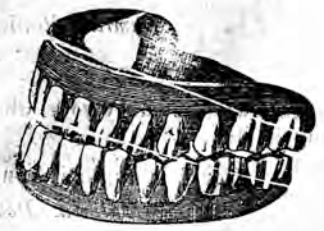
HAMILTON & Co.

Manufacturing Gold and Silversmiths, Calcutta.

J. CORFIELD & Co.

11, OLD COURT HOUSE STREET,

CALCUTTA.



MESSRS. CORFIELD & Co., Surgeon Dentists of Calcutta invite the attention of the Native community to their celebrated Artificial Teeth. These teeth are not, as many are made of ivory or bone, but are made purely of *stone*. They may therefore be worn by Orthodox Hindus, without violence to their caste prejudices.

When fitted by Messrs. Corfield and Co.'s process these artificial teeth cause no pain and give no discomfort to the wearer, they are exact imitations of natural teeth, and enable the wearer to articulate properly, and to masticate perfectly, any and every kind of food. They thus not only contribute largely to the personal comfort but also improve the general health by ensuring the proper mastication of food, which cannot be accomplished by those who have lost their teeth and are without good artificial substitutes.

Prices regulated to suit the means of all classes.

CONSULTATION FREE

Observe the address.

J. CORFIELD & Co.

11, Old Court House Street,

(NEXT TO F. AND C. OSLER,)

Calcutta.

THE ORIGINAL HARDWARE ESTABLISHMENT OF INDIA.

T. E. THOMSON & CO.

No. 9, Esplanade Row, Calcutta.

IMPORTERS OF.

Steam Ploughs, Horse Ploughs &c., &c., &c.,

STEAM CULTIVATING TACKLE WITH SIE VENS PATENT PLOUGH & CULTIVATOR. FOUR FURROWS, WITH

1 Dozen Extra Ploughshares	2 Dozen Extra Shares R. S. 2
2 Extra Tines for Cultivator	1 ,, ,, ,, R. S. 4
1 Dozen Extra Shares S. 2	1 ,, ,, ,, R. S. 4
1 ,, ,, ,, S. 3	1 Extra Screws with Collars for raising the main wheel.

Extra Draft Hooks, Bolts, Keys, and Pinions, and 8 Extra Iron Coulters for heavy lands.

Howard's Patent Double-Breast Or Ridging Ploughs.

These Ploughs are intended for moulding up or forming ridges for turnips, mangolds, and potatoes. The breasts are fitted in a neat and simple manner: they can be readily expanded or contracted to any required with, and this independently of each other. By simply removing the breasts, which can be done instantly, and attaching the hoes shewn in the annexed engraving, these implements can be used as horse hoes.

Ploughs for small Bullocks or Ponies.

Howard's Patent Iron Dwarf Plough, with one wheel Marked D' each ... ... Rs. 45

This plough is intended to be worked by a small horse or bullock. It is adapted for light land, for stirring loose soil, and for any kind of shallow ploughing where the draught is easy.

The average weight of the above Plough is 1½ cwt.

Howard's Patent Turnerest Plough, with one Wheel each ... ... Rs. 32

The above plough is the most useful made for very hard, rooty, or stony ground, being very strong and reversible.

Howard's Expanding Horse Hoe each ... ... Rs. 70

This Implement is intended for one row of turnips, potatoes, or beans, or for three rows of wheat, barley, &c. The hoes are made to suit the different widths of the rows, and are so arranged that the frame never projects beyond the outside hoes. The advantage of this arrangement is very great when hoeing highstanding crops.

It is fitted with an expanding harrow, which works behind the implement and brings the weeds to the surface.

The average weight of the above is 1½ cwt.

Whitehead's Patent Horse Hoes, each ... ... Rs. 55
Carson's Patent Expanding Horse Hoes, each ... Rs. 60

Ten per cent off the above prices for Cash.

THE

BENGAL BANKING CORPORATION Ld.

(REGISTERED UNDER THE INDIAN COMPANIES ACT X OF 1866.)

With a nominal capital of twenty lacs of Rupees, divided into two lacs of shares of Ten rupees each, one rupee per share to be paid on application, one rupee on allotment of shares, and the balance in calls of not more than one Rupee per share, each call being subject to three months' notice.

The Bank offers to pay until further notice interest on deposits as follows:

CURRENT OR FLOATING DEPOSITS @3¾

per cent per annum on the minimum balance of Rs. 20 or upwards at credit during the month.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS.

With 15 days' notice of withdrawal,		@ 4½	per cent per annum.
With 3 months'	ditto.	@ 6	ditto.
With 6 months'	ditto.	@ 7	ditto.
With 9 months'	ditto.	@ 8	ditto.
With 12 months'	ditto.	@ 9	ditto.

The Prospectus and Forms of application for shares may be had from

BHOOBUN MOHUN DAS,
Secretary to the Corporation,
7, *Old Post Office Street, Calcutta*

WANTED.

An Overseer for the Backergunge District Road Cess Committee on a salary of Rs. 150 a month with Rs. 50 travelling allowance. None need apply who have not passed the Overseer's examination in the Civil Engineering College, and a preference will be given to those who have had experience in similar capacities.

Applications will be received by the undersigned up to May 31st and the successful candidate will be required to join on June 30th.

Backergunge District Road Cess Committee's Office, the 19th April 1880.

J. C. VEASY,
Chairman
Road Cess Committee.

By appointment,
To HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJAH DHEERAJ OF BURDWAN.

C. K. SEN & CO.

KOBIRAJ DRUGGISTS AND CHEMISTS,

Calcutta,

AYUR VEDA MEDICAL HALL
No. 146, Lower Chitpore Road.

C. K. SEN & CO'S

Dantashodhana Churna or celebrated Dentifrice.

The regular use of this powder is sure to cure all diseases of the gums, cures ulceration, prevents bleeding, sweetens the breath, perfectly cleanses the teeth of tartar and all other noxious matters and renders them pearl white.

Price per Box 8 *Annas. Postage &c.*, 8 *Annas*
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN. & Co.'s
CURE FOR HYDROCELE

If the disease be of one years standing, the use of one box only of this medicine is sure to cure. If it be of long standing, the regular use of the medicines for a longer period will cure 90 cases out of 100, and it is warranted to remove all complications such as fever, debility &c. however long they may have existed. It also restores the virile powers which have been lost on account of the malady.

Price per box Rs. 2, postage & 8 annas.
4 Boxes can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN. & CO.'S

Kuntalabrishya or World-famed Hair Restorer.

The regular use of this invaluable oil most certainly cures baldness and prevents the hair from falling off or turning prematurely grey. It cures diseases of the head and brain and strengthens weak and failing eye-sight. It possesses a very sweet odour.

Price per Bottle Re. 1. *Postage &c.*, 10 *As.*
2 Bottles can be sent by the above postage.

C. K. SEN & CO. 'S

Superior & Genuine Makaradhwaja.

This is one of the most potent medicines of the Hindu Pharmacopœa, never fails to produce the most satisfactory results in cases of debility from whatever cause arising seminal, constitutional or otherwise. It acts like a charm in typhus or typhoid fevers, chronic diarrhœa, habitual constipation, spermatorrhœa, female complaints after delivery, weakness of the brain from excessive mental labor, and in all complaints to which the persons of sedentary habits are especially subject.

Price 7 grains per Rupee or Rs. 24 per Tolah.
Postage 4 As.

All the above preparations are perfectly innocuous and may be taken by persons of all sexes and ages with perfect safety.

BINOD LAL SEN, KOBIRAJ,
Manager

SPECIFIC FOR DYSMENORRHŒA

OR

PAINFUL MENSTRUATION (বাদক বেদনা)

A single administration during menses generally cures the disease and brings on conception."

For particulars apply to Dr. Bhoobun Mohun Sircar, No. 77, Mooktaram Baboo's Street, Chore Bagan, Calcutta.—**Price Rs. 3-8,**

Sole Agents. B. M. SIRCAR. & Co.

Strychnidine.—Acts as a specific for Nervous Debility, General Debility, Loss of Energy, Nervous Prostration from over-work, Chronic Indigestion, Melancholia Lassitude, Hepatic or Splenic hypertrophy, &c. Per bottle Rs. 4, *Cure guaranteed.*

Apply—W. Rooder & Co., Simla Calcutta.

THE HINDOO PATRIOT.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

All Subscriptions payable in advance, and none for less than one month.

IN TOWN.	Rs.	As.
Per Month	1	2
,, Annum	11	8
,, Single Copy	0	8
IN MOFUSSIL.		
In Advance per Annum	13	4
Arrear Do.	15	8
RATES OF ADVERTISEMENT.	Rs.	As.
Per line	0	4

Printed and published by WOOMESH CHUNDER NUNDI, *at the* HINDOO PATRIOT PRESS, No 108, BARANUSSY GHOSE'S STREET, CALCUTTA.

special arrangement of interest upon decree for money lent. The other points referred to in the petition were the supply of copies of judgment to suitors free of cost; some definite provisions as to the time when the purchaser of land at an execution sale becomes the lawful owner, and the receipt of rent at the rate paid by the ryots to the former proprietor, shall not be construed into a valid recognition of the lease in case it was not originally valid.

MASTER AND SERVANT BILL.—On the invitation of the Government of Bengal for an expression of the opinion of the Committee on the Amended Bill with reference to the expediency of proceeding with legislation in the direction of the revised Bill and the scope and details of it, the Committee reiterated their previously expressed opinion that it ought not to be made applicable to native masters and servants. They suggested that Paiks may be included in the category of clerks, domestic and agricultural servants in the general clause of exceptions. With regard to the expediency of proceeding in the direction of the revised Bill, they added that they were not in a position to express any opinion on the requirements of other classes of the community who were not considered natives.

FACTORY BILL (First petition).—With reference to the proposed Factory Bill and the correspondence bearing on the same and His Honor the Lieutenant Governor's Resolution on the subject, the Committee responded to the invitation from Government for an expression of their views and suggestions by stating that as regards the object of preventing accidents the provisions of the Bill were excellent, but they were not satisfied that there was any necessity for regulating labour and hours of labour in factories. Mills and factories had opened an outlet to indegenous labour and afforded ample scope for the employment of the labouring poor, who otherwise would have suffered great hardships for want of remunerative occupation. Besides the operatives at the mills received higher wages which enabled them to live in greater comfort as regards food and clothing than they could have done in any other field of employment. While the Committee were convinced that the Government in proposing this measure were actuated by a humane motive, they could not but admit that it would be most unfortunate if by any action of Government there should be offered any obstacles to the flow of the blessings enumerated. Besides, it was not clear whether any necessity has occurred for legislative interference with the employment of labour in factories. There was no evidence that the health of the operatives at the mills suffered greater deterioration or there was greater mortality among them than amongst labourers in other fields of employment; on the contrary from the arrangements obtaining in Factories the mill-hands contracted regular habits and lived in contentment. The immediate consequence of the reduction of the hours of labour would be reduction of wages, which could not but be deeply regretted. With regard to the limit of age proposed in the Factory Bill, there would be insurmountable difficulty in the working of the Act from the absence of birth-records and horoscopes amongst the classes of people who supplied labourers. As the present hours of labour did not prove detrimental to the health of labourers, the Committee were of opinion that the question of the regulation of Factory labour should be left to the operation of the natural laws of demand and supply.

TRADES AND PROFESSIONS BILL.—The Committee in their petition with reference to this Bill deprecated the imposition of direct taxes upon the people of this country on account of the oppressions which their realization involved. Whatever form a direct tax might assume, whether inquisitorial or hypothetical, it would always be liable to great abuse, and carry with it annoyance, irritation, harassment and hardship to tax-payers. It was on account of these evils which were equally experienced in the working of the Income tax and the License tax, that the Government of India came to the conclusion in 1873 that a direct tax was not suited to the circumstances of this country and accordingly repealed the Income tax. While the Committee regretted the necessity of reviving a direct tax in the shape of a license tax last year, they observed that the working of that tax last year had conclusively shewn that the financial result hardly compensated for the evils which were inseparably associated with it. The remission of the tax upon incomes below Rs. 250, the Committee remarked, would not afford much relief, as the benefit intended would probably be neutralized by overzealous officers including in the list of assessees persons entitled to exemption. The hope that the evils apprehended would disappear as greater experience would be gained in the working of the Act in subsequent years would not diminish the dread of harassment and oppression incidental to yearly revision and readjustments. With the vigorous measures of retrenchment in progress, the Committee hoped that there would be less need for the imposition of a new tax, but they noticed with grief that it was proposed to make the license-income tax a source of permanent revenue. If the measures of retrenchment in contemplatation were not likely to afford immediate relief to the exchequer, it would go a great way to sooth public uneasiness if the duration of the tax were limited to one or two years. With regard to the details of the Bill the Committee suggested a modification in the explanation of the term "agricultural business" so that it might be extended to the exemption of such monetary transactions as might come within the legitimate scope of agricultural operations and of the relations subsisting between the landlord and tenant or the landlord and his amlah such as giving agricultural advance or taking bonds for payment of rent by settlement of demands or bonds from gomasthas or other amlah for payment of moneys in their hands. It was not clear from the wording of the law whether any tax would be payable by a person who, though he might be making his earnings within British territory, had his principal place of business beyond the local limits of British India. It was further suggested that with a view to obviate trouble and inconvenience to persons to proceed from distant parts of the country to the Collector's office, the list of assessees should be stuck up not only in the Collector's cutchery but also in the sub-divisional stations, police stations and moonsiff's courts. Provision was made in the Bill for voluntary application on the part of persons whose names might have been omitted from the Collector's assessment list and for the punishment of persons who would not make such application. These provisions, the Committee observed, would relax the energy of the assessing officer and place the public entirely at the mercy of the executive, while they would lead to much annoyance, irritation and hardship. The Committee therefore suggested omission of these provisions. Exception was taken to the section providing for the payment of the full tax, or half tax in case it exceeded Rs. 40 by the assessees, before their objections could be heard on the ground that such a restriction would amount to a denial of justice and entail great hardships upon the aggrieved persons. The Bill cast upon private employers the obligation of realizing the tax from their servants. This would impose upon the former duties and responsibilities which legitimately belonged to the fiscal agency and it would not be fair to shift the task of collection from the responsible revenue officer to the shoulders of private employers. The Committee deprecated the provision in the Bill which denied appeals under this law as a matter of right and gave the Revenue Commissioners discretion to allow a revision of the order of the Collector. As the right of appeal given under the existing Act was the means of securing redress to many aggrieved parties, they suggested it should be allowed in all cases in order to obviate injustice and hardship. They further pointed out that the principle of classification adopted in the Bill with regard to the schedule for the assessment of trades would press more upon persons with the maximum income than with the maximum income included in a given class. They therefore submitted that it would be equitable to assess all trades and professional incomes at 1½ per cent. all round as in the case of salaries.

EXTENSION OF THE DECCAN RYOTS RELIEF BILL TO BENGAL.—The Committee received early last year from the Government of Bengal some correspondence regarding the measures to be taken for the relief of ryots in parts of the Deccan, with an intimation of the desire of the Government of Bengal for the expression of the opinion of the Association as to the expediency of extending some of these measures to the Lower Provinces. The points on which opinion was requested were, the investment of the courts of various grades with a summary jurisdiction, the extension of that jurisdiction where it was already possessed, the limits and restrictions within and under which the jurisdiction was to be exercised, and the district or districts in which the plan of an assessment of the land revenue, varying with the season, might be adopted. The Committee in their reply expressed an opinion favorable to the extension of the Small Cause Court jurisdiction either by multiplying Small Cause Courts or by vesting a large number of moonsiffs with the powers of Small Cause Court Judges, and they also suggested encouragement by Courts of reference to arbitrators selected by suitors. The plan proposed for the variation of assessment of the land revenue according to the variation of seasons, they stated, would not answer, as the payment of the instalments of revenue was now regulated by the expected outturn of crops at particular seasons.

RENT BILL.

CIRCULAR ON THE RENT BILL.—To enable the Committee to submit their opinion to the Government of Bengal on the Rent Bill after consulting native gentlemen in the interior, and suggestions for its improvement, they issued a circular in English and Bengali, with a copy of the Original Bill and a Bengali abstract of the same, inviting their opinion on the subject.

REPLIES TO THE RENT CIRCULAR.—Replies to the circular above-mentioned were received from some of the zemindars of 24-Pergunnahs, Nudden, Moorshedabad, Hooghly, Burdwan, Bankura, Midnapore, Bhaugulpore, Gya, Rajshye, Rungpore, Dinagepore, Dacca, Mymensing, Furreedpore, Pubna, Backergunge, and Noakhally, and they were either in English or Bengali. The English replies were forwarded to Government in original and English abstracts of the Bengali replies were appended to the Association's reply to the Government requisition. Of the opinions thus collected some expressed entire acquiescence in the provisions of the Bill, and others, who formed a majority raised objections to most of its provisions. As regarded the Committee's opinion they contented themselves with a reference to their previous communications on the subject.

AMENDED RENT BILL.—Regarding the Bill to provide for the speedy realization of the arrears of undisputed rent as amended by the Select Committee, the Committee represented to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, that the amendments made far from facilitating the recovery of rent, would interpose greater difficulties than the existing law offered. The provisions regarding the sale and subletting of occupancy tenures as amended instead of improving or simplifying would tend to complicate matters. The Committee concurred with the Select Committee in the view that a general revision of the rent-law was preferable to piece-meal amendment. They took leave further to suggest that a sketch of an amended Bill might be prepared by some competent officers well versed with the history and working of the rent-law, and then submitted to the public for criticism. After the receipt of these criticisms the Bill might be revised by the same officers or by a mixed Committee of official and non-official gentlemen, and then submitted to the Legislature for consideration. A Commission on the Rent Bill has been appointed and has held several sittings.

DR. FIELD'S DIGEST OF THE RENT LAW.—The Committee received towards the end of last year from the Government of Bengal a copy of Dr. Field's Digest of the Law of Landlord and Tenant in Bengal, and a copy of the Rent Commission's letter No. 14, dated 19th August 1879, requesting opinion and suggestions of the Association on the Digest and the points indicated in the letter. The Committee in their reply submitted that the plan followed in the Digest with modifications made here and there may fitly be adopted for the codification of the rent laws; that the whole of the law in the Digest should be embodied in the consolidating Bill subject to modifications as above, including the Putni law which should be embodied without modifications. With regard to additions and alterations in the substantive law, the Committee observed that, much will depend on the decision of Government as to the lines upon which the amendment of the rent law should be cast. Speaking generally the amendment of the law is needed for a definite expression of certain provisions of the law regarding the rights of landlord and tenant as guaranteed by the Permanent Settlement Regulations, and for giving facility for the settlement or enhancement of rent and for the realization of rent. On the question of the desirability or otherwise of retaining the separate jurisdiction of the Revenue Courts in any district, the Committee were adverse to the withdrawal of the rent jurisdiction from the Revenue authorities where it existed. As to the transfer of matters connected with the deposit of rent the Committee took the liberty to recommend that the same court which would try the rent suit should have control over the deposited rent. The Committee were in favor of the proposal of transferring the purely ministerial functions of distraint to the revenue authorities, leaving the decision of disputed questions with the civil court. The next question put by the Commission was whether suits for pottahs and kubulyuts should be abolished, substituting for the same a single suit for the determination of the ryot's rent, the quantity of land held by him, and the nature of his tenancy. The Committee while answering in the affirmative suggested that the suit might include instalments in which rent should be payable and the mode of payment, in kind or money. The other points referred to in the Rent Commission's letter were, the desirability of applying to ryots' holdings, if made transferrable, the summary sale procedure; if a summary sale be not thought advisable, whether they might be sold on oral application after a decree had been obtained; the uniformity of the procedure of summary sale, a sale under the Revenue Authorities and sale of a tenure transferable by its title-deeds or the custom of the country and the adaptability of the Revenue Courts procedure to the Civil Courts. The Committee gave preference to the summary sale procedure, and held that an appeal in a rent suit should not be allowed unless the amount decreed was deposited in Court, and the decree-holder should be at liberty to

take out the money so deposited on giving proper security. They insisted upon the procedure for the recovery of rent of tenures of all classes being made uniform and summary and the sale under the revenue authorities procedure summary also. With regard to the question of adapting the Revenue Courts Procedure to the Civil Courts, the Committee supported the adaptation view on the condition of the procedure being the same as was in force before the transfer of the rent suits to the Civil Courts, but they thought that at least one appeal from the decision of the Court of the first instance was desirable.

COTTON DUTIES.

DEPUTATION TO THE VICEROY.—The Committee waited in deputation upon the Viceroy on the 8th March of last year with an address upon the proposed repeal of the import duty on cotton goods, deprecating the measure, with special reference to the pressure exerted in England upon the Indian authorities for the repeal of the duties in question. In this address they recited the opinion of the past Indian administrations bearing on the principles on which the cotton duties were maintained in India, how far they trenched upon the principles of free trade, to what extent the objections on the score of protection had been obviated by recent legislation, and how absolutely necessary this impost was for the sake of revenue. They also quoted the opinions of the Secretary of State, and the present Viceroy to the effect that though the "earliest possible opportunity should be taken for the repeal of the cotton duties" due regard should be paid to the "paramount and primary obligation of every Indian Government to make the two ends meet and avoid deficit, debt, and fresh taxation." Bearing these truths in mind, which had been so emphatically enunciated by His Excellency the Viceroy at Manchester, before his departure from England for this country, the Committee ventured to draw special attention to the financial condition of India, which they did not hesitate to say was "critical." They supported their opinion by referring to the enormous expenditure consequent on the famine in Southern India and the imposition of additional taxation at a time of national tribulation, the inefficiency of the measures of reduction to afford relief, the precarious nature of opium revenue, the heavy drain on the Indian Treasury consequent on the depreciation of silver and the loss by exchange, and lastly the cost of the Affghan War thrown upon the Indian revenue. The Committee comparing the advantages of direct taxation and quoting the authority of Lord Mayo and the Earl of Northbrook against the increase of direct taxation in this country, in conclusion submitted :—"We conceive that it is our duty as loyal subjects of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen-Empress to acquaint her representative in this country submissively, respectfully but frankly, with their humble opinion, sentiments and feelings, regarding all measures connected with their advancement and welfare, and from this sincere conviction we have ventured to approach Your Excellency with this address in the hope and belief that Your Excellency will not seal with your sanction any measure on the subject under discussion, which Your Excellency may not be satisfied is perfectly consistent with justice, sound policy and the true interests of India."

VICEROY'S REPLY.—The Committee were grieved at the reply which His Excellency vouchsafed. His Excellency assumed that this Association was composed wholly of the Bengal zemindars, though enquiry would have satisfied His Excellency that it comprised all classes of the community, zemindars, putnidars, farmers, merchants, lawyers, manufacturers, house-owners and others having a stake in this country. His Excellency next remarked that the Bengal zemindars were one of the "most favoured groups of the Indian community," that their position was "important and exceptional," that their "collective wealth surpassed that of any equally large and distinct section of the Indian community," that there "was no class of Her Majesty's Indian subjects, which in proportion to its collective and social advantages still bore so small a share of the public burthens", that "their wealth and advantages have directly accrued to the zemindars of Bengal from the action of the British Government", that "it must therefore be, at all times, a matter of interest to this Government to be made acquainted with the views and sentiments of a body which owes to the British Crown such a special and long debt of loyalty and gratitude." The zemindars of Bengal, the Committee need hardly say, will always contemplate with gratitude and loyalty the many blessings which British rule has conferred upon them in common with other classes of the Indian population, though they would be doing injustice to the impartial spirit of British administration in this country and wanting in that high sense of loyalty and gratitude with which they are justly credited, if they were to assent to the opinion that they have been "favored" at the expense of any other class of Her Majesty's Indian subjects. His Excellency proceeded further to express his alacrity and readiness to encourage freedom of criticism of the proceedings of Her Majesty's Indian Government, and to welcome from all parts of the empire spontaneous expressions of local opinion as to local interests which, here or there, be they small or great, deserve fair consideration in the impartial distribution of the public burdens. The Committee feel deeply grateful to His Excellency for this expression of opinion, but they do not believe that His Excellency is anxious to encourage on the part of the subjects of the Queen-Empress only disinterested criticism of the proceedings of Her Majesty's Indian Government or spontaneous expression of only *local* opinion as to local interests. The Committee venture to remark that though the criticisms of Indian tax-payers regarding measures of finance and taxation are necessarily interested, it cannot be the policy of the British Government to repress the expression of such *interested* opinion. They feel confident that legitimate criticisms of the "proceedings of Her Majesty's Indian Government" by Her Majesty's Indian subjects, in a spirit of loyalty, truthfulness, and moderation, will be received with kindness and grace by His Excellency, as they have been always received by himself, by his illustrious predecessors, by Her Majesty's Government in England, and by the Imperial Parliament, whether those criticisms were "disinterested" or no, whether the questions criticized affected only "local interests" or the general interests of the whole empire. The Committee were filled with much grief to be told by the Viceroy that there were many statements in the address which he did not admit and there were much in the tone of it which he did not approve. His Excellency continued, "You have attributed to the Government of India views which it has publicly repudiated; you have imputed to the Parliament of England, and the Ministers of the Crown, satisfied acquiescence in a state of things which they have distinctly condemned; and you have ignored the duty at all times incumbent on Her Majesty's Indian Administration to act in honest accordance with the principles laid down for the guidance of its action by the authority from which its own is derived. As the representative of the sovereign of India, I regret that such language should have been held to me by the representatives of some of Her Majesty's favored Indian subjects; and, as the responsible guardian of the general interests of the people of India, I notice with disappointment and surprise that you who represent to some extent the wealthiest class in India, whilst deprecating forms of taxation such as the Bengal Land Cesses which mainly fall on your own class, have not shrunk from advocating, and in urging on my adoption, other forms of taxation which fall almost exclusively on the great body of the poor." The Committee can emphatically and most conscientiously deny that they recommended any forms of taxation which would exclusively press upon the poor and exempt the richer classes. The reasons they urged with regard to the cotton duties shewed that these duties had the recommendation of being a form of taxation which will fall chiefly upon the richer classes who mostly consume the finer class of goods proposed to be exempted from duty, the duty on coarser goods used by the poor having been already abolished. As humble and loyal subjects of the Queen-Empress they would be guilty of disrespect to the Throne if they were to attempt, however respectfully, reverently, and loyally, to carry on a controversy with Her Gracious Majesty's Representative as to the "tone" and "spirit" which characterised their address, or the character of their suggestions, not to say that such controversy would lead to no practical good. Nor is it necessary to carry on this controversy, for the accessories which contribute to the health and strength of the Government under which they are privileged to live relieve them of this disagreeable and invidious task, and public opinion has declared its verdict upon the point. They would also leave the issue of the validity of the arguments advanced by His Excellency to rebut their statements and reasonings to the same tribunal of public opinion. The Press of India has been unanimous in its condemnation of the time selected for the remission of the cotton duties, while the disinterested leaders of the British nation in Parliament have pronounced in unmistakeable language upon the injustice done to the tax-payers of India by the sacrifice of revenue involved in the repeal of the cotton duties. The Government of India not long after the publication of the Viceroy's reply to the Deputation of this Association was obliged to record in its budget statement for the ensuing year, its financial difficulties and the remedies proposed for the restoration of the financial equilibrium. In that statement the extinction of the Famine Insurance Fund was announced. and allusion was made to the difficulty of following a settled financial policy owing to the uncertainty of exchange. Notwithstanding these financial difficulties the Government determined to "follow a settled policy" in respect of the remission of cotton taxation. As the representatives of the tax-payers of India, this Association have the satisfaction to observe that the statements, facts and arguments which they ventured to lay before His Excellency the Viceroy, have received universal support in India; that their appeal has been backed in the Imperial Parliament, and their position notwithstanding the reproaches cast upon them by His Excellency, has been amply vindicated by the intelligent, warm and generous sympathy shewn both here and in England. In the Council of the Governor General the majority of the members opposed the reduction of the duties, while in the Council of the Secretary of State the question was carried by the casting vote of the Secretary of State. The Committee cannot disguise that the disappointment and distress with which they were filled by the unmerited rebuke of His Excellency, were felt the more when they called to mind the courtesy with which His Excellency had on all former occasions received the representations of this Association, and the consideration which he had always shewn to their remarks, criticisms and suggestions, regarding public questions, whether of local or general interest.

PETTY SAVINGS FUND.

GOVERNMENT LETTER.—Towards the end of last year the Government of Bengal forwarded some correspondence from the Government of India in the Department of Finance and Commerce requesting a confidential expression of opinion of the Association on the scheme proposed in the correspondence above referred to for the establishment of a "Petty Savings Fund."

REPLY OF THE COMITTEE.—The Committee in their reply after referring to the United States "Refunding Certificates" to which the proposed scheme bore resemblace took a review of the salient points of the scheme with special reference to the three denominations of the Certificates, of Rs. 12 8, Rs. 25, and Rs. 50 respectively bearing interest at the rate of 8 pies, and four pies, and 2 annas 8 pies a month, to be paid after two years on the presentation of the Certificate, which will be withdrawn and a new one substituted, and the notes which will be issued at the rate of 96 per cent. or in exchange for certificates bearing interest at 4 per annum payable half-yearly; these notes are not to be paid off for twenty years at least and they will be negotiable instruments. The Committee, speaking for Bengal, denied the existence of hoarded capital anywhere in the country, as the practice of hoarding money and burying it underground is not now resorted to owing to the security of person and property which is well assured to the people under the blessings of British rule. The investments in which the spare money of the people find employment are land in the shape of small jotes or holdings, extension and improvement of cultivation, and accommodation at high rates of interest. The profits from these investments are so large that it will be no object to well-to do agriculturists, artizans and small capitalists to invest their capital in certificates or notes at 4 per cent. interest per annum. It is therefore extremely doubtful whether the proposed measure will tap those sources of small capital which it is the object of Government to reach. It is the salaried classes or persons too lethargic to help themselves who will have recourse to the proposed "Petty Savings Fund," but for them there are the Government Savings Banks and the Government Stock and for them any offer of greater facility is hardly needed. The Committee further observed that ordinarily the surplus capital in the hands of the people, specially agriculturists and artizans, is not large. What surplus moneys they have begun to earn of late years is more than absorbed by increased wants arising from improved tastes and habits. They are now better fed, better clothed and better housed, and have acquired a taste for improved means of living. They are now no longer satisfied with the old system of medication, locomotion and recreation, and they now spend more money upon marriages, shrads, religious observances and festivities than they used to do before. Again, a considerable portion of their savings is appropriated to the supply of gold and silver ornaments which have the recommendation of being less liable to deterioration than furniture and equipages and are more readily convertible into cash when necessity for so doing occurs. Such being the case the Committee were humbly of opinion that there is not much scope for the operation of the scheme of "Petty Savings Fund" in Bengal.

VILLAGE DRAINAGE.

LETTER OF THE COMMITTEE.—Referring to the Resolution of His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal dated 29th April 1878, on the subject of the improvement of the drainage of towns and villages, the Committee observed that nothing could be more desirable than the instructions of the Lieutenant Governor contained therein, but, they said, it has been brought to their notice that the practical working of the resolution has not been sufficiently prompt or decisive, and this information is confirmed by the Government Resolution on the Administration Report of the Burdwan Division published in the *Calcutta Gazette* of the 24th September last. In that resolution the Government

referred to the prevalence of a violent type of fever and pointed out the importance of village drainage, dwelling specially on the amount of sanitary improvement, which might be effected, if Government officers would only interest themselves personally in the matter, and assist the inhabitants in accomplishing the small and inexpensive works which in many cases would suffice to remove the cause of much suffering and death. Considering the multifarious matters which occupy the attention of district officers, the Committee took leave to suggest that proper attention to village drainage might be best secured, if Road Cess Committees were made responsible for the work. The establishment under the Road Cess Committees might be well utilised in the construction and supervision of the drainage works, for the same persons who look at the roads can also look at the drains. The officers under the employ of the Road Cess Committees if instructed to report upon the drainage of villages, in which it might be their duty to construct and maintain roads might furnish much useful information and the requisite improvements might be effected either through their agency or under their supervision. Funds for the improvement of drainage, the Committee suggested, might be available from the Ferry Fund, the Embankment Fund, the Canal Fund and the Municipal Fund. His Honor the Lieutenant Governor has lately ruled that the surplus of the Ferry Fund ought to be applied among other things to the improvement of drains. The Embankment and Canal Acts impose upon the authorities concerned the obligation of maintaining the drainage channels intact, while the improvement of drainage is a legitimate charge upon the Municipal Fund. The Embankment and Canal officers might execute the necessary works, but the Committee believe they will better realize their sense of responsibility if an independent body like the Road Cess Committee be instructed to stir up these officers on the report of their own engineering staff. The Municipal Committees might be similarly stimulated if they were made accountable to a District Committee like the Road Cess Committee. To secure proper attention on the part of the Road Cess Committees to the performance of drainage works the Committee suggested that they should be required to make a quarterly report of progress to the Commissioner of the Division who should be directed to make a report to Government. They further added that the Road Cess Committees should instruct their engineer officers to make a report in detail on the state of drainage in the tract of country, through which they may pass, and suggest improvements; the Embankment Department, the Canal Department, or the Municipal Committees might be called upon by the Road Cess Committees to execute the necessary works or deposit with them the necessary funds for such works. It might stimulate the Road Cess Committees and other local authorities, the Committee further observed, and satisfy the public, if the Government should be pleased to publish in the official *Gazette* a half-yearly report of progress of the different districts with such remarks as His Honor may think fit to make thereon.

Reply of Government.—The Government informed the the Association that it has forwarded a copy of the Committee's representation to the Commissioners of the Presidency, Burdwan, Rajshye and Cooch-Behar, Dacca, Chittagong, Patna, Orissa, and Chota Nagpore Divisions, and called for a report on the proposals of the Committee.

DURGA PUJA HOLIDAYS.

The Bengal Chamber of Commerce had moved the Government of Bengal to consider the question of the Durga Puja Holidays and had suggested their reduction from twelve to four days, on the ground "of the general business of the port being practically prevented from being carried out during that long interval; for while the Bank of Bengal and other banking establishments are compulsorily closed, a general suspension of business, for a period larger than what takes place in any other port in the world, is inevitable and the inconveniences resulting from such a system are of such grave concern to the commercial community, that their interests call for a material amendment of the recognition which these holidays received from Government." His Honor the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal on the receipt of this application constituted a Committee composed of official and non-official gentlemen, amongst these latter there were two native gentlemen of the Hindu community, for the consideration of the holiday question in all its bearings. Before the decision of the Committee was made public the Hindu community of Calcutta and its suburbs were much excited by the rumour that it was in contemplation to reduce the Durga Puja Holidays to four days. The Committee accordingly prepared and circulated a memorial to the Lieutenant Governor, which was signed by 7800 Hindus, and forwarded it to the Government of Bengal for transmission to the Governor General in Council. With regard to inconvenience to commerce on which so much stress was laid by the Chamber of Commerce, it was submitted by the memorial that "it was not apparent, while the reduction of the holidays would be a grievous hardship to the Hindu community and to Government employes of all classes. The Durga Puja is the greatest national festival of the Hindus of Bengal; around it are clustered their deepest religious feelings and the most amiable and venerated social usages; it is an occasion not only for religious worship but also for family reunions and social gatherings and observances held in the highest esteem by the Hindu community. It affords a dearly prized opportunity to Hindu employes to revisit their homes from long distances after a prolonged absence, and the relaxation from work it brings is beneficial to all classes of public servants. It cannot be denied that the good health of the public servants is a matter of public importance, as it is attended with the highest and best economy, and in that view the Government has devised the schemes of furlough and privilege leave, by which periodical rest from labour is secured to its higher officers." The President of the Committee, Hon'ble H. L. Dampier, in summing up the recommendation of the majority of the Committee, said "that it amounted to a proposal that all public offices shall be kept open, and that all persons who are engaged in business must attend to business on all but the four close days." It devolved upon Sir Steuart Bayley the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal *pro tem* to dispose of the report of the Holiday Committee. The minute of His Honor which accompanied the above report to the Government of India contained the following remarks: "On the whole it seems that the inconvenience and loss which the mercantile community suffer from the existing state of things great and vexatious as they are, cannot be remedied without inflicting a still more hardship on a far more numerous though less influential class of the community and Sir Steuart Bayley is therefore not prepared to recommend compliance with the proposals of the majority of the Committee." The Government of India in the Financial Department disallowed the recommendation of the local Government, stating that the Governor General in Council could not concur in the conclusion of the local Government. His Excelleney in Council accordingly ordered that the Durga Puja holidays should not exceed four days from the next year. This decision left the Hindu community no choice but an appeal to the Home Government and lastly to Parliament. The Committee had prepared a memorial for circulation in the districts, but the spontaneous action of Lord Lytton relieved them of the necessity of taking further action in the matter. It would appear that His Excellency had given his assent to the original resolution without being fully apprized of its character and tendency, measure, and as soon as things were represented in their proper light to him His Excellency saw the injustice committed. The Hon'ble Maharaja Jotendromohun Tagore C. S. I., the President of the Association, brought to the notice of the Viceroy the deep feeling of dissatisfaction, which the reduction of the Durga Puja holidays had caused among the native community. His Excellency at once resolved to look into the papers and to make enquiries about the matter. After a full and patient enquiry His Excellency was satisfied that the original order was hasty and uncalled-for, and with the consent of his colleagues in the Council and His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, restored the Durga Puja holidays to the original number of twelve days. The Hindu community of Bengal are deeply indebted to Lord Lytton for this gracious concession.

VOTES OF THANKS TO LORD NORTHBROOK, MR. GLADSTONE, MR. FAWCETT, AND MR. F. H. O'DONNELL.

The Committee recorded votes of thanks to the Right Hon'ble the Earl of Northbrook, the Right Hon'ble W. E. Gladstone, the Hon'ble Mr. Fawcett and the Hon'ble Mr. O'Donnell for their services to India in Parliament. The Committee thanked Lord Northbrook for his kindly presenting the petition of the Association regarding the cost of the Affghan war to the House of Lords, for the expression of his opinion as to what should have been the correct principles of action respecting the recent remission of the cotton duties, and for warmly advocating the cause of economy in the administration of Indian Finance. To Mr Gladstone the Committee testified their satisfaction and gratitude for the prominent and active part which he took in the debate in the House of Commons on the Indian Budget, strongly deprecating the illiberal and injurious spirit which has marked some of the recent measures of the Indian Government and at the same time lending his powerful support to the policy of retrenchment in the present situation of Indian Finance. They also tendered him their thanks for doing them the favor of presenting the petition regarding the cost of the Affghan War to the House of Commons. To Mr. Fawcett the Committee expressed their deep obligation and their humble congratulations and cordial thanks for his steady and unflinching advocacy of economy, of reduction of taxation and of the administration of the affairs of India on broad sound and honourable principles, and for the fruits which hsi advocacy has borne in the recognition by Government of the necessity of large retrenchment. And to Mr. O'Donnell for bring to the notice of the House of Commons the unjust reply of the Viceroy to the Deputation of the Association regarding the Cotton Duties.

Replies have been received to the above votes of thanks. Mr. Fawcett in his reply says "that great importance is to be attributed to the fact that the Government have at last recognized the critical state of Indian finance, yet I am sure unceasing watchfulness will be required to secure such a reduction of the expenditure as her financial position necessitates."

ACCIDENT TO THE VICEROY.

The public of Calcutta were filled with horror and indignation at a dastardly attempt made on the life of the Viceroy while His Excellency's cortege, on his return to the Presidency from Simla in December last was proceeding to the Vice-regal palace. An Eurasian youth named Dessa, who was afterwards found to be insane, fired two shots one after another from the crowd assembled in the Strand Road to witness the cortege, upon the carriages of His Excellency, and his Private Secretary. Providentially the shots missed their aim and the Viceroy with his suite reached Government House in safety. The Committee sent a letter of congratulation to the Viceroy and Col. Colley expresing their joy and satisfaction at their escape and their detestation and horror of the crime. Colonel Colley in acknowledging with thanks the Committee's letter states that "the evidences of loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen-Empress, and sympathy with the Viceroy which this occasion has called out from all classes of Her Majesty's subjects in India, will always be most gratefully remembered by him."

LETTER TO SIR ARTHUR HOBHOUSE.

The Committee received with great satisfaction the intelligence of Sir Arthur Hobhouse, late law member of the Viceroy's Council, offering himself a candidate for election to the next Parliament. With a view to enlist Sir Arthur Hobhouse's sympathies in the interest of India they addressed him a letter wishing him success. They stated tnat though Parliament wields the destinies of two hundred millions of the devoted and loyal subjects of Her Majesty's Indian Empire there is little prospect of the representation of their multitudinous interests in the great congress of the British nation except through Englishmen, who have studied Indian affairs either by serving in India or devoting their attention to them. Remembering that as a member of the Council of the Governor General of India, Sir Arthur was a champion of the liberty of speech and writing, and protector of India's interests against their sacrifice at the altar of English party politics, an opponent of aggressive war and ambitious schemes of territorial aggrandisement and an advocate of peace and progress, the Committee ventured to express a hope that his election will secure his attention to the application of liberal and enlightened principles in the administration of India. The Committee also expressed their pleasure and satisfaction at the public advocacy in England on the part of Sir Arthur Hobhouse of India's interests and his diffusing correct information regarding Indian affairs. Sir Arthur Hobhouse has kindly acknowledged the letter of the Committee.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Addition to the House of the Association. The Committee had always felt the necessity of a good and commodious hall for the Association, as the room hitherto used for meetings of the Association was not sufficiently spacious for largely attended assemblages. They have accordingly added a new hall, which measures 65 by 24 feet. It will obviate the necessity of their going to the Town Hall except on rare occasions. This addition has also greatly improved the appearance of the house. The additions and alterations have been carried out by the well-known firm of Messrs. Mackintosh Burn & Co.

Deaths.—The Committee deeply regret to notice the loss by death during the past year of four valuable members, Raja Degumber Mitter C. S. I. their late lamented president, whose demise they reported in their last annual report, of Nawab Ameer Ali, the leading representative of the Mahomedan Community in this city, and a gentleman of vast experience and great influence, of Babu Ashutosh Mullick, a young man of great promise, and of Babu Tariny Churn Banerjea, who was connected with the Association from its foundation and used to take a deep interest in its work.

(Printed at the Hindoo Patriot Press.)

Digitized with financial assistance from the
National Archives of India
on 07 August, 2017

LOCAL.

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

At the twenty-eighth annual meeting of the British Indian Association, held on Friday last, the following report of the Committee was read :—

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

THE Committee beg leave to submit a summary of their operations for the past year.

PAYMENT OF THE COST OF THE AFFGHAN WAR.

PETITION TO PARLIAMENT.—One of the most important subjects, which engaged the attention of the Committee during the past year, was the cost of the Affghan War. Abstaining from any discussion of the political relations of the British Government with the Indian or Asiatic states, from a conviction that these relations, involving questions of international policy, could be best solved by the responsible Government of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen and the British nation, the Committee in view of the equities of the Affghan War and the grave financial situation of India, considered it their duty to petition both Houses of Parliament on the subject of the defrayal of the expenses of the war. In their petition they gave expression to their feelings of satisfaction and pleasure at the success of the British arms in Affghansthan, but they urged that when the primary object of the war was "the maintenance of the character and influence of England in Europe," it would not be just or equitable to burden the Indian tax-payers with its cost. They further submitted that India unlike the British Colonies was not assisted with any subsidies from the imperial exchequer; that the India Office like the Colonial Office was not maintained by the imperial treasury; that the garrison of India or any portion of it like the garrisons of some of the colonies was not supported by the imperial fund; and lastly that no insurrectionary movement in India, like those in some of the colonies, had ever been suppressed with the aid of the imperial exchequer. On the contrary, in times past, Indian troops had been employed for the purposes of imperial policy at the expense of the Indian exchequer. Seven times within the last forty years England had borrowed troops from India for the exigencies of imperial undertakings. This appropriation of Indian revenue had taken place in contravention of the distinct provision of a Parliamentary statute, which forbade the application of such revenue to the defrayal of the expenses of any military operation beyond the frontiers of India without the consent of both Houses of Parliament, except for preventing or repelling actual invasion of Her Majesty's Indian possessions or under other sudden and urgent necessity. Under the statute above referred to India could not justly be held liable for the cost of the Affghan war, which had been undertaken not with a view "to prevent" or "repel" actual invasion of Her Majesty's Indian possessions, but with a view to protect and uphold the imperial prestige of England in Asia. The Central Asian Question, as His Excellency the Viceroy had remarked, was not an Indian but a European question. "It is a question," to use the words of the Right Honorable the Prime Minister, "which concerns the character and influence of England in Europe." The belief that the revenues of India were in a flourishing state and could therefore well bear the cost of the Affghan war, was not warranted by facts. The finances of India were never free from deficits, which were met by loans, sometimes by additional taxation, and sometimes by retrenchments. The poverty of the Indian people was notorious, who notwithstanding their thrifty and frugal habits were exposed to destitution and starvation by the failure of a single year's crops. The multiplication of burthens upon a people living in such a condition of life would necessarily trench upon their means of subsistence. Lastly, the Government had imposed special taxes for the creation of a Famine Insurance Fund, but that fund had ceased to exist. To appropriate that fund to the defrayal of the expenses of the Affghan war would be a breach of faith. In conclusion the Committee prayed that inasmuch as neither on grounds of law, equity, and righteousness, nor on financial and general considerations the revenues of India could be fairly deemed liable to the present and prospective charges of the Affghan war, Parliament would be pleased to take into consideration all the circumstances of the case and accord justice to the tax-payers of India.

The petition to the House of Lords was presented by the Right Honorable the Earl of Northbrook, who took an elaborate review of Indian finance and made some valuable suggestions for the reduction of expenditure. Touching the petition His Lordship observed: "Before sitting down he desired to present a petition from the Committee of the British Indian Association, which consisted of noblemen and gentlemen resident in Bengal. These noblemen and gentlemen included some of the most distinguished among the native population. Several of them were members of the Legislative Council of the Viceroy or occupied positions of the highest importance. They prayed that the expenses of the Affghan war should be borne by this country, and not by India, and they dwelt at length on the circumstances connected with the subject. In some circumstances he might have felt it necessary to move that the petition which he presented, together with other papers, might be printed and placed in the hands of members of their Lordship's House; but as the question was to be brought before the other House of Parliament, and for some further reasons, in reference to which it was not necessary for him to speak at length, he would be content with moving that the petition which he presented do lie upon the table." Lord Cranbrook, the Secretary of State for India replied. "In regard to the petition which the noble Earl had presented, he did not propose to go at length into a discussion of the questions with which it dealt. He might, however, say that it would in his view have been prejudicial alike to the interests of this country and of India, if the cost of the war in which we had recently engaged with Affghansthan had been thrown exclusively upon India and at the same time he thought that except in circumstances of the most extraordinary character it would be desirable to keep the revenues of this country and of India separate. He thought that the English Government had however done all that could be expected of them in the circumstances, by making a large loan to India on the most favorable terms that could be possible. This was a course which in the long run would prove more advantageous to India than any other which could have been adopted."

The Right Hon'ble Mr. Gladstone in presenting the petition to the House of Commons introduced it with the following remarks: "I have to present a petition from the British Indian Association meeting in Calcutta. I shall not ask to have it read but I may say those from whom it emanates state that it has been frequently their privilege on the invitation of the India Government, to offer advice and suggestion regarding public measures and policy. The petition relates to the charge for the Affghan war. Its authors decline to discuss the policy of that war, but they greatly regret the imposition of this charge upon India, and point out that the military establishments of India, instead of being a burden to this country, have, as they conceive frequently offered positive assistance to this country, and that on several occasions which they enumerate, from 1842 to 1867, Indian troops had been brought for European purposes, beyond the limits strictly so called of India. They then quote the language which they understand has been used by the Prime Minister in Parliament to the effect that he considered the Affghan question as a question which concerned the character and influence of England in Europe, and they add, that they think it hard that India should be called on to pay for a war which has to do with the character and influence of England in Europe. They state that this money, out of which the expense of the war is to be met in the first instance is money already pledged according to the words of the Finance Minister, to be religiously applied as a Famine Fund. They likewise state that it is not only the prime cost of the war which they regard with apprehension, but that they are also filled with apprehension at the subsequent cost which may become necessary to retain the fruits of the war, as it is impossible to say what additions will have to be made to the military establishment of India for the security of the new frontier. I have no doubt this petition will receive attention from the Committee on Petitions."

Mr. Gladstone took advantage of this occasion to deliver a calm and exhaustive speech upon the question of the defrayal of the expenses of the Affghan war. The Committee transcribe the following remarks from this important speech:—"I must in passing express deep regret at the charge of this expense on the Indian revenue. It is impossible to answer the arguments contained in the petitions from India presented by myself and others. I am afraid a deep sense of wrong and resentment will be generated in India by a course so little worthy of the greatness and magnanimity of this country as calling upon the impoverished people of India to bear nearly the entire charge. I do not say the whole charge, because a loan without interest is simply a mode of making a small contribution to the expenses of the war. I am afraid the charging of the greater part of this upon India will engender—and I am not prepared to say it ought not to engender—a sense of wrong, not extravagantly extended beyond the bounds of the subject, and of ungenerous treatment. I do not perceive that the Government have taken into account the effect of the war upon the future permanent finances of India. It is admitted that there are immediate expenses to be incurred; but will there not be a permanent increase of expense? We have advanced into a difficult country and have undertaken to hold mountain passes without escaping from any internal responsibilities. A high authority, Sir Alexander Arbuthnot, who was intrusted with the introduction of the Vernacular Press Act, and who approved the policy of the Affghan war, has recorded his opinion that it will entail a permanent increase of military charges; and since then it has been announced that a subsidy is to be regularly and by treaty payable to the new Ameer."

There was a most animated debate in the House of Commons on the subject on the eve of the prorogation of Parliament, last year, in connection with the Bill for granting a loan of £2,000,000 to the Government of India for payment of the cost of the Affghan war to be repaid in seven annual instalments without interest. On this occasion Mr. Fawcett moved an amendment to the following effect:—"That considering that it has been officially stated that the Affghan war was undertaken in the interests of England and India jointly, this House is of opinion that it is unjust to make India pay towards the expenses of that war more than seven times as much as will be contributed by England." On this motion the House divided, the ayes were 125 and noes 137—the majority for the noes was 12 only, a result, which considering the ministerial majority was by no means unsatisfactory. This weight of opinion in favor of the amendment was a tacit acknowledgment of the injustice done to the Indian tax-payers by charging them with the whole cost of the Affghan war. India with all her financial difficulties does not want a "benevolence," what she claims and prays for is unalloyed financial justice from England in this as well as other matters.

LEGISLATION.

PETITIONS TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL.

CIVIL PROCEDURE AMENDMENT BILL.—Before the Civil Procedure Act had been in operation for two years, it became necessary to revise it. The Committee taking advantage of this revision suggested some improvements and amendments which may be briefly summarised thus:—Regarding the subscription and verification of plaints, discretion was given to the Courts to permit the plaintiff to have the plaint signed by a duly authorized agent, the Committee observing that such discretion was liable to abuse suggested that the plaintiff might be permitted to authorize his pleader or mooktear to subscribe to and verify the plaint. This amendment, the Committee are glad to state, has been acceded to. With regard to the section requiring that every suit shall include the whole of a claim arising out of the cause of action the Committee remarked that the provision was productive of hardship in suits for rent. When ryots are unable to meet the demand for a large sum, comprising two or three years' rent, it becomes necessary to split the claim into two or three portions and sue for the first portion to save the landowner's claim from the bar of limitation. The plaintiff, if necessary, might be required to state in the plaint the arrears due for other years. With regard to *res judicata* it was pointed out that great inconvenience and injury would arise from limitations imposed upon the institution of suits when claims involved in such suits have been already otherwise disposed of. To secure the ends of justice the Committee suggested, that a fresh suit might be allowed for contesting questions of title or interest which might have arisen incidentally in the trial of a suit but have not been fully investigated or adjudicated upon before. The other suggestions embodied in the petition were, that as the plaintiff was required to furnish as many copies of the plaint as there were defendants in the suit, the defendant ought to be similarly required to file a duplicate copy of his written statement for delivery to the plaintiff's pleader at least six days before the day appointed for the hearing of the suit; rejected written statements might be retained in the record for being identified by the Appellate Court in case it should differ from the original court as to the admissibility of such document; the provision of the old Act, requiring a person applying for examination of a party as witness to show sufficient grounds for his application, should be reintroduced in the Amending Act to obviate harassment to parties in vexatious suits; to enable the High Court as a court of general revision to understand clearly the character of the evidence which might have swayed the decision of the lower court, a provision for the keeping of full notes in non-appealable cases was suggested; as regards the provision authorising the Courts in passing a decree for the payment of money to order payment by instalments, it was pointed out that it would not be consistent with reason or justice to interfere with